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Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab Summit Conference—Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid inaugurated the emergency summit in a speech broadcast by Algiers television, focusing on the Palestinian uprising, which he described as a "decisive, historical turning point" that creates "a new situation that requires a new approach." The uprising signals the need to put an end to the era of "dispersed efforts" and it requires the Arabs to meet the demand for a unity of ranks to back the Palestinian resistance, he added. Jordan's King Husayn followed Bendjedid with a short speech in which he expressed "pride and admiration" for the Palestinians' bravery in confronting the Israeli occupation authorities. In his remarks, carried by Amman television, the king also referred to Palestinian actions in the occupied territories as a "revolution."

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat was among the other speakers at the opening session. His speech, which was broadcast by Algiers television, hailed the convening of the summit as giving "great political, material, and moral impetus" to the Palestinians by reassuring them that they are not alone in their struggle. Among the meetings on the sidelines of the summit, 'Arafat held talks with King Husayn and with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, according to Amman and Beirut radio reports. Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi also held separate meetings with 'Arafat and with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, JANA noted. The Jordanian foreign minister told Amman's AL-DUSTUR that the 'Arafat-Husayn meeting was "fruitful and positive" with "no points of disagreement."

Mubarak in Baghdad—Egyptian President Husni Mubarak went to Baghdad for consultations with his Iraqi counterpart, Saddam Husayn, on "ways to reinforce bilateral cooperation," MENA reported. In remarks cited by the agency, Mubarak highly praised the "eternal and deep-rooted" relations between Egypt and Iraq, and he reiterated his congratulations on Iraq's recent victories in the war with Iran. On the subject of the war, Saddam Husayn maintained that the Iranian position has weakened because the people are tired of the conflict. The appointment of 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani as acting commander in chief of the armed forces will not resolve the "power struggle" in Iran, he predicted, adding that only by abandoning the war can Iran escape its "predicament" and avoid collapse. In response to a question on inter-Arab differences over the war, the Iraqi president noted that some countries' "selfishness" has led them in the "wrong direction," but any "mistakes" short of treason can be forgiven. Neither Iraq nor Egypt will "close the door to anyone," Saddam Husayn said.

Israel

The Israeli-appointed mayor of Al-Birah was in "critical but stable" condition after being knifed by a lone assailant outside the Al-Birah town hall, Jerusalem radio reported. Hassan al-Tawil, who was appointed mayor 2 years ago, was operated on at Ramallah Hospital after the stabbing. The military authorities imposed a curfew on Al-Birah and began an intensive investigation. The IDF officer in charge of the civilian administration said the authorities view the incident with "great severity" and indicated that they will take measures to prevent similar incidents, according to IDF radio. Israeli officials subsequently met with Arab officials in the administration to persuade them from resigning their posts, Jerusalem radio noted.

A youth from a Gaza Strip refugee camp died after being brought to a hospital with bruises that he said were inflicted by soldiers, IDF radio reported. The IDF is investigating the circumstances of his death.

In another development, the prime minister's bureau rejected a request to release Mubarak 'Awwad from prison before his deportation from Israel, IDF radio noted. The office contended that 'Awwad's release would spark off "ferment" and harm public welfare. Meanwhile, the IDF chief of staff stressed that Israel has "nothing to hide" on the issue of human rights, Jerusalem radio reported. His remark followed a meeting with Richard Schifter, U.S. assistant secretary for human rights and humanitarian affairs, who warned that the "cumulative damage" to Israel on this issue could affect future Congressional allocations of foreign aid.

Lebanon

West Beirut Explosion—A car bomb in the Al-Awza'i area of West Beirut killed 4 people and wounded over 40 others, Beirut radio reported, adding that the explosion occurred near a checkpoint manned by Syrian troops and Internal Security Forces. The radio said another person was killed in a subsequent clash in the area between Internal Security personnel and passengers in a civilian car. Voice of Lebanon radio stated that Hizballah gunmen were involved in the clash. Meanwhile, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri blamed "Israeli instruments in Lebanon" for the bombing, Beirut radio noted. Birri linked the explosion with a threat by the Lebanese Forces (LF) to retaliate for the 30 May car bomb attack in East Beirut.

LF on Shultz—U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' statement in Damascus on the Lebanese crisis is a "positive development," the LF announced in a statement broadcast by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. Noting that Shultz expressed opposition to any forcible or foreign imposition of any reform plan on any party, the statement said the LF "highly appraise" the U.S.

insistence that the presidential elections be held without conditions and without linking them to political reform or the establishment of "administrative Beirut."

Alleged Southern Clash—Although Beirut radio reported that Amal personnel engaged in "fierce battles" with Israeli troops near the southern town of Yuhmur 7 June, Israeli military sources told IDF radio that there was "no unusual IDF and South Lebanese Army activity" in the Yuhmur area. Beirut radio said the Israelis were blockading the town the following morning.

Syria-USSR

A Soviet military delegation recently visited Syria in connection with preparations to supply Syrian forces with SS-23 missiles, which have a range of some 500 km, according to a UAE newspaper cited by MENA. The AL-ITTIHAD report said the Soviet delegation was headed by General Vladimir Pikalov, Chemical Troops chief of the Soviet Special Troops.

Libya

The Foreign Liaison Bureau summoned the Italian ambassador and expressed its "concern" over the transfer of U.S. F-16's from Spain to Italy, Tripoli radio reported. It was stressed that increasing the U.S. military presence in Italy "threatens the peace and security of the Mediterranean Basin."

Iran-UK

A three-man delegation headed by the chief of the Foreign Ministry's Legal Department arrived in London for talks on compensation for damage to the Iranian and British Embassies, IRNA reported, adding that both sides "firmly rejected" rumors that the discussions are aimed at gaining Iran's aid in obtaining the release of British hostages in Lebanon.

Afghanistan

Prime Minister-Designate Muhammad Hasan Sharq presented his new streamlined provisional government in an address to the Wolasi Jirgah broadcast by Kabul radio. Among those who retained their posts are the ministers of internal affairs, state security, foreign affairs, and finance. Hasan Sharq noted that ministers of defense and Islamic affairs will be named later.

In New York, President Najibullah and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met to discuss their "coordinated policy" to ensure the implementation of the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan, TASS reported.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Further Reportage on Arab Summit in Algiers

Syria's Al-Asad Arrives

JN0706155288 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Excerpt] The Syrian delegation headed by President Hafiz al-Asad arrived in Algiers this afternoon, Tuesday, to take part in the extraordinary Arab summit, which is being held to discuss the Palestinian situation and means of backing the brave popular uprising in the occupied Arab territories.

The president was received at the airport by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid; Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, official in charge of the FLN's Permanent Secretariat; Rabah Bitat, president of the National People's Assembly; Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, minister of foreign affairs; Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League; several ministers and senior officials; the Algerian ambassador in Damascus; and the Syrian ambassador in Algiers and members of the embassy staff.

The Syrian delegation includes Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Nasir Qaddur. [passage omitted]

Al-Qadhdhafi, YAR's Salih Arrive

LD0706191888 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] The brother leader arrived in Algiers at exactly 1330, accompanied by YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, to take part in the emergency Arab summit due to start in the Algerian capital this evening.

The brother leader of the revolution and president 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih were given a huge official welcome at Houari Boumedienne Airport.

President Chadli Bendjedid was at the forefront of the welcoming party which included Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, head of the FLN permanent secretariat; Major Al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi; Brother Rabah Bitat, speaker of the National People's Assembly in sister Algeria; members of the politburo of the FLN; the Algerian prime minister and members of his government; Brother Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League; the delegate of the Great Jamahiriyah to the Arab League; the secretary and members of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau; and the YAR ambassador in Algiers and his embassy staff.

Bendjedid Gives Opening Speech

LD0706212988 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1905 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Speech by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid opening the Arab emergency summit session in Algiers—live]

[Text] After opening the extraordinary conference of Arab kings and presidents of Arab countries, let us continue our hopes.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, Your Majesty and Excellency, Your Highnesses and Excellencies, gentlemen;

We are meeting here today, thanks to God and his care, in response to the new cry of the Palestinian people in its blessed uprising, to discuss the soundest means of providing it with that which will guarantee its steadfastness and strength.

It is a great honor for Algeria to embrace this noble gathering and it pleases me to welcome you in the name of the Algerian people and leadership, and to wish you a good stay among us. I beseech God the almighty to crown our work with success. It pleases me to welcome my brother President Moussa Traore, Malian president and OAU chairman, who attends this meeting to share our hopes and concerns.

Honorable brothers, our meeting takes on a special significance, which it derives from the nature of the cause for which it is being convened: Palestine, the jewel of the Arab nation's struggle and its sacred cause. We are called on today to express our common desire and declare our firm determination to translate words into deeds and political attitudes into a program of action, and to consecrate the necessary capabilities to realize this objective with a sincere spirit and realistic effort. The Palestinian people have suffered for the last 40 years from difficulties and obstacles that have taught us many lessons. But the basic lesson we draw from all this is that our determination must come from within and serve the objectives inspired by the struggle which our nation should wage.

Honorable brothers, the uprising of the Palestinian people is a decisive, historical turning point in the course of the Palestine question and a radical development in the methods of the struggle that has continued for more than half a century. The changes resulting from the uprising on the Palestinian, Arab and international levels, and their effect on political facts, make us face up to a new situation that requires a new approach. While the Zionist entity enjoys political and material support that encourages continuous expansion, annexation and hegemony, and violation of Arab states' sovereignty, the Palestinian cause is beset by differences that have dispersed potentials and have reflected negatively on the possibility of steadfastness and resistance.

Honorable brothers, the uprising creates fresh breathing space for the Palestinian revolution, confirming to all the world the extent of the Palestinian people's tenacious hold on its national identity, and its determination to retrieve its usurped rights. The uprising exposes to world opinion that the enemy's deception continues to deceive the public. Thus, the uprising comes as a signal of the need to unify both vision and method, to put an end to the era of dispersed efforts, if we are really determined not to miss our rendezvous with destiny.

Yes, the uprising has affirmed the will of the Palestinian people for liberation, for rallying around the PLO, and for revealing the colonial nature of the enemy and its savage practices. The situation today requires us to meet the demand for united Arab ranks to back the Palestinian resistance. This is the answer that accords with the greatness of the sacrifice offered by the sons of Palestine, and this is the road to recovering their national rights. We must force the enemy to recognize the right of the Palestinian people to exist, to self-determination, and to set up their own independent state on their liberated land, and we must launch a common Arab initiative that will enable the Palestinian revolution to achieve its objective, and will at the same time free Arab efforts from the bonds of failure and despair.

Honorable brothers, the uprising has proved again to the international community that in Palestine there is a people that is steadfast and that refuses to go into oblivion. This fact has become clear in a way that compels us to endeavor to abort all attempts being made to contain the uprising, divert it from its course, or deprive it of its content. There is no doubt that this requires a unified, serious, and sincere Arab position.

Honorable brothers, our insistence on a unified position and our emphasis on the nature of the struggle and the battle does not mean that we reject peace. No! In spite of its awareness of the aggressive and racist nature of the Zionist entity, with its persistent rejection of peace, the Arab nation put forward a responsible peace plan at the Fez conference. But the enemy threw his lot in with the existing balance of forces and gambled by adhering to the status quo. Thus, we have to prove to the enemy that Arab resistance will not halt, that the balance of forces is destined to change, and that true peace will only be established by recognizing legitimate rights.

Honorable brothers, the uprising of the Palestinian people has hastened the acceptance of the idea of a responsible international conference under UN auspices, with full prerogatives, and the participation of the permanent members of the Security Council, and in which the PLO would participate on equal footing with all other parties; it being the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, having been chosen by them. There is no need to emphasize that the objective of this conference is the comprehensive peaceful settlement of the conflict by returning all occupied Arab lands, and resolving the Palestinian issue in a way that ensures the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return, to self-determination, and to set up an independent state with Jerusalem as its capital.

If the liberation of Palestine requires mobilizing all energies and enlisting all capabilities, it follows that efforts should converge and intentions be sincere to put an end to the war of the brothers in the Gulf, within the framework of a peace settlement that guarantees justice and preserves honor. In the same context, we must exert ourselves to end the strife in Lebanon, achieve national reconciliation, and re-establish its territorial integrity and complete sovereignty.

Your Majesty and Excellency, Your Highnesses and Excellencies, gentlemen, the Palestine uprising is a test of civilization and a test of fate, either it triumphs and guarantees the rebirth of our Arab nation or it collapses and weakens its limbs. Therefore, to guarantee the continuation of the uprising is not only a duty it is our way to insure the continuation of the Arab future and the confrontation of the dangers that threaten the coming generations.

Let our word unite the spirit of the uprising and outline the road, the road of solidarity that stems from the unity of belief, the unity of vision, and the unity of the future. We urge God to support us in this test and guide our feet on the road to unity of action. This is not difficult for God.

God's peace, mercy, and blessing on you.

'Arafat Addresses Summit

LD0706222388 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1940 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Address to the Arab emergency summit in Algiers by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We shall help our prophets and those who believe in life and on the day on which the witnesses shall rise. God has spoken the truth! [Koranic verse]

Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid, brother Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses, Brother Excellency President Moussa Traore, president of the OAU and president of the Republic of Mali, Excellency Brother Secretary General of the Arab League, brothers and friends:

In these blessed moments of the glorious history of our nation and of the uprising of our courageous Palestinian people, which today covers every corner of our occupied homeland, I should like to convey my deep thanks to fraternal Algeria, the land of heroism and sacrifices, the land of one and a half million martyrs, and to its great struggling president, His Excellency President Chadli

Bendjedid, for his call to convene your blessed summit to support and assist the uprising of your Palestinian Arab people in its occupied homeland and its occupied Jerusalem.

Last year it had embraced with its fraternal and courageous people the conference of the Palestine National Council, which entrenched Palestinian unity and which constituted the historical pillar for the blessed uprising of our people and its glorious revolution. I should also like to convey my thanks to you for your response in attending this emergency summit—for the sake of our people's uprising and their blessed revolution—in solidarity with, and in assistance to, the struggle of our people, so that they may recover their inalienable and nonnegotiable national rights, including the right to return, to self-determination, and to set up an independent Palestinian state with our holy Jerusalem as its capital.

This meeting of yours constitutes, in itself, a great political, material, and moral impetus to the struggle of our people. This is because it reassures them that they are not alone in the battle, and that the Arab nation stands beside them, a fact that encourages them toward greater steadfastness, struggle, and sacrifices.

Also the unity of Arab ranks and its agreement in backing the uprising exerts a strong influence on the states and forces of the world. Solidarity and the Arab nation's backing of our Palestinian people in their battle strengthens their struggle and stiffens their will. This united Arab attitude will give rise to confidence and hope in the souls of the masses of our Arab nation, and it shall be the focus of wide international interest and great respect.

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful, and ye who believe! If you support the cause of God, God will aid you and plant your feet firmly. [Koranic verse] The development of the uprising and the development of the international attitude to it depend to a great extent on the outcome of our conference. The hearts and eyes of the Palestinian people, and those of our Arab nation, await with great hope its results, and God willing, the conference will live up to the hopes pinned on it. Our people, our revolution, and its uprising have always found backing and strong support in the Arab nation. Our people promise you, promise the masses of our Arab nation, and promise all the free and honorable men in the world that its revolution shall continue, and its uprising shall escalate until victory with the elimination of occupation. Ye who believe! If you support the cause of God, he will aid you and plant your feet firmly. [Koranic verse]

The presence of the Brother President Moussa Traore, chairman of the OAU, representing great Africa—the fighting continent, peoples, and states—is a great indication of the interest and support of the friends of our Arab nation by its side in its decisive battle against the Zionist enemy, ally of the racist regime in South Africa. Allow me, Brother President Moussa Traore, to address you in your capacity as a friend—whose friendship and sincere support for us give us great pride—and address through you all the peoples and states of friendly Africa for this committed and sincere attitude which declares that the cause of Palestine is an African cause as it is an Arab one, a matter which our people and our Arab nation do not forget.

In the same way, we consider that the struggle waged by the peoples of South Africa, Namibia, and the African Frontline States as a common struggle with our Arab nation, which affirms that we and the peoples of Africa wage a common campaign against two racist regimes: the racist regime in Pretoria and the racist-Zionist regime in Tel Aviv, which are two sides of the same coin, being extensions of racism and Zionism and imperialism and colonialism. This is why they both find support from the world imperialist powers that stand in the way of the hopes and expectations of our Palestinian people, the peoples of our Arab nation, and the friendly African peoples.

Your Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid, permit me, in conclusion, to thank you deeply, as well as your government, your party, and your great struggling people for the splendid fraternal attitude always taken by Algeria toward our people, their struggle, and their just cause. Your Excellency, brother president, it is enough of a source of pride for Algeria that it has always been in the forefront of support for all the Arab combats and struggles, from the eastern gate in Iraq and the Gulf, to Palestine. This honorable conference hosted by Algeria today, which brings together the Arab nation and its great leaders, is simply a proof of Algeria's permanent loyalty to its glorious history of struggle.

Thank you Mr President, thanks to Algeria and its fraternal people. Thanks to all my brothers, their majesties, highnesses, and excellencies, the kings, presidents and amirs of the fraternal Arab states, who have embodied, by this meeting of theirs, all the meanings of inter-Arab solidarity on this firm fraternal platform. On this occasion, I congratulate Algeria and Morocco, and the Arab nation for this blessed step taken by His Majesty King Hassan II and President Chadli Bendjedid, which is considered as a force not only for the Arab Maghreb, but also for all our Arab nation. May God guide us toward the good of our nation, its elevation and glory, and toward what pushes the struggle of our nation for the liberation of holy Jerusalem, the first qiblah, and the third holy place, the place from where the prophet ascended to the heavens, and the cradle of Jesus Christ, peace be upon Him.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: They entered the mosque as they did the first time, [words indistinct]. [Koranic verse]. God speaks the truth. Peace and blessings of God be upon you. [applause]

Jordan's King Husayn Speaks

JN0806210488 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Speech by Jordan's King Husayn at the opening session of the extraordinary Arab summit in Algiers on 7 June—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Your Excellency the chairman, Your Majesties, Excellencies, and Highnesses: Praise be to God, the cherisher and sustainer of the worlds and peace and prayers be upon the most honorable prophet and messenger, our master Muhammad, the faithful Arab prophet.

It pleases me at the beginning of this blessed meeting to greet you and to convey to you profound respect, appreciation, and sincere greetings and wishes from the Jordanian Arab people, who had the honor of receiving you in Amman a few months ago. On this blessed occasion and in this honest fraternal atmosphere, it also pleases me to address my deep thanks to His Excellency Brother Chadli Bendjedid for calling for, and hosting, this extraordinary Arab summit in his lofty country.

I also deeply thank the fraternal Algerian Arab people for their hospitality, warm welcome, and genuine generosity. I also thank the Algerian Government deeply for the hospitality and care they have accorded us. I ask God to inspire us to make sacrifices on the land of sacrifices; to sponsor our solidarity and determination on the land of determination; to lead our steps on the right path; and to provide us with the means of success and wisdom in our conclusions and resolutions. With God's help, these will bring wellbeing, loftiness, and prosperity to our glorious nation.

It also pleases me to address our Palestinian brothers in the occupied territory with salutes of pride and admiration for their bravery in confronting the occupation authorities. We ask God the almighty to make us succeed in adopting the right decisions for making their uprising against the occupation colonialists into path of freedom and dignity.

Brothers, more than 3 decades ago this dear Arab country sharpened our nation's understanding of the one Arab destiny. Its glorious revolution stirred our pan-Arab emotions, united our hearts, and gathered us on a noble pan-Arab objective. We championed the fratenal Algerian people and supported them with what we could while they were waging their continuous heroic struggle, offering well-known, legendary sacrifices to seize their freedom from an odious colonialism.

We meet today in this country after it was liberated thanks to God's help and its sons' blood. We meet today to recognize a similar favor made to us this time by the Palestinian Arab people through their valiant revolution against another colonialism. As the Algerian revolution has united the Arabs' feelings and tendencies, the Palestinian revolution in the occupied Palestinian territory today unites our feelings and tendencies in support of the Palestinian Arab people and their heroic struggle to achieve their legitimate national objectives.

A few months ago, we met in an extraordinary summit in Amman. We concentrated on achieving accord and reconciliation among the members of the one Arab family. We meet today in another extraordinary summit in Algeria to confront the challenges which our nation is facing, particularly the aggressive and expansionist Zionist challenge. I am confident that the Algiers summit, thanks to the realism, cordiality, and capability of the chairmanship of His Excellency Brother Chadli Bendjedid, will achieve, God willing, the pan-Arab aspirations carried by us all. Thus, the Algiers summit will crown the Amman summit which shone with the sun of reconciliation and placed the brothers, the members of the one family, on the path of accord and of strengthening ties.

What has pleased us recently was the initiative by the two sister nations, the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of Algeria, to restore normal friendly relations. Allow me to congratulate them as well as the two fraternal peoples just as we congratulate ourselves for this blessed step. This step was a good omen and signifies hope for their nation on the eve of this summit. We are confident that this will be a successful, correct beginning, God willing, toward more understanding, solidarity, and cooperation among the sons of the Arab people in the great Arab Maghreb. This step will also be a prominent and essential building block in the edifice of Arab solidarity.

I pray to God, the Almighty, to grant us success for his satisfaction, to lead us in the service of our nation, and to guide our steps on the right path.

God's peace and mercy be upon you.

Saudi King Receives 'Arafat

LD0706144588 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1422 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Algiers, 7 Jun (SPA)—King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosque—may God protect him—received in his residence at the Aurassi Hotel this afternoon the PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and his accompanying delegation. The meeting was attended by the delegation accompanying the custodian of the two holy mosques.

'Arafat Meets King Husayn

LD0706173788 Kuwait KUNA in English 1629 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Algiers, June 7 (KUNA)—PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met here Tuesday with King Husayn of Jordan.

Sources close to the meeting said Husayn is expected to discuss with the Palestinian leader a plan for Jordanian-Palestinian action in the upcoming stage.

Jordan-PLO 'Understanding'

JN0806091088 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 8 Jun 88 pp 1, 14

[By 'Abd al-Wahhab Zughaylat from Algiers]

[Text] Jordanian-Palestinian relations and the future of these relations were the focus of attention throughout the days preceding the convocation of the extraordinary Arab summit in Algiers.

Observers here say that Jordan will present to the PLO its concept of the formula for joint action. It was reported that the PLO will also present its concept of bilateral relations as represented by its call for an independent Palestinian representation in any negotiations on the Palestine question and by the rejection of the U.S. initiative.

The few hours preceding the summit conference's opening session witnessed a quick change in the observers' speculations and opinions following PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's visit to His Majesty King Husayn in his place of residence at the Aurassi Hotel.

Contrary to expectations, AL-RA'Y can affirm that an atmosphere of understanding and confidence has permeated talks between the two sides and this refutes all rumors concerning relations between Jordan and the PLO.

AL-RA'Y met senior Jordanian officials who stressed that nothing blemishes bilateral relations and that Jordan supported and will continue to support the Palestine cause at all times and under all circumstances. They also stressed that Jordan will not be an obstacle for the Palestinians nor will it respond to rumors, which are numerous. What concerns us, they said, is the Palestinian people's welfare and their cause, which is basically Jordan's cause. We support all unanimous Arab decisions regarding the summit topics and we have no reservations over anything except that which harms Arab interests.

AL-RA'Y then met PLO official spokesman Bassam Abu Sharif, who stressed that Jordanian-Palestinian relations are very distinguished ones. He said: The PNC has clearly defined its concept of relations between the two sides and those distinguished relations which should always prevail between us.

Replying to an AL-RA'Y question on the Palestinian paper, he stressed that the PLO wants to participate in peace negotiations in an idependent delegation and on an equal footing with the other concerned parties. He added: The sound way to resolve the Palestine question is by holding an international conference in which we participate independently.

Regarding the Soviet pressures on the PLO to be represented in a joint delegation, he said: No such pressures were exerted on us. On the contrary, Moscow is in favor of an independent delegation and supports the PLO in its capacity as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative.

Sources close to the Jordanian and Palestinian delegations emphasize that the two sides will hold an unannounced meeting to discuss the Palestinian paper and the Jordanian ideas which will be presented to the conference so that the two sides can coordinate their stands and agree on certain clauses to avoid the possibility of disagreement or different interpretations.

The sources indicate that satisfaction permeated the PLO delegation minutes after 'Arafat's departure from King Husayn's place of residence as his majesty stressed that Jordan will not allow anyone to harm relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples, while 'Arafat praised Jordan's material, moral, and political aid to the kinfolk in the occupied territories.

Al-Jumayyil Receives 'Arafat

NC0806054688 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil received Yasir 'Arafat and Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, at his suite in the Aurassi Hotel in Algiers yesterday. Their talks dealt with the situation in Lebanon and the region.

In a statement after the meeting, 'Arafat said that the meeting was fraternal and useful and that the talks centered on a number of important common issues, including the continuing Israeli pressure and aggression against southern Lebanon and Palestinian camps. The talks, 'Arafat added, also touched on the continuing bleeding of the Lebanese wound, which concerns the entire Arab nation. He added that Lebanon's stability and territorial integrity act as catalysts in promoting the Arab cause.

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets With Leaders

LD0806091588 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0830 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Algiers, 8 Jun (JANA)—The leader of the revolution began his activities in the Algerian capital yesterday by receiving Brother Yasir 'Arafat and members of the PLO Executive Committee. The meeting was attended by Brother Nayif Nawatimah and Brother Hani al-Hasan. During the meeting a number of issues concerning the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people and the Arab nation were discussed.

Yesterday evening the brother leader of the revolution received President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, president of the sister Republic of Tunisia. The meeting was attended by Major Al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, by the Great Jamahiriyah's representative at the Arab League, by Brother Mahmoud Mestiri, [Tunisian] minister of foreign affairs, and by Brother Abdelwahab Abdallah, [Tunisian] minister of information.

Last night the brother leader of the revolution received President Hafiz al-Asad who was accompanied by Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic of Algeria, then joined the meeting which was also attended by Brother Mohamed Sharif Messaadia, official in charge of the Algerian FLN Permanent Secretariat.

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Sends Message to Cuba's Fidel Castro

JN0606182588 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1612 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman, has sent a message to Cuban President Fidel Castro on current developments in the region. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar handed the message to the secretary of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party, when he met with him in Tunis Saturday night.

The Palestinian news agency, WAFA, reported that the Cuban official renewed during the meeting his country's full support for the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representatives, for the regaining of their national rights.

It is to be recalled that the Cuban official is visiting Tunis, where he attended the rally organized Friday on the 40th day since the martyrdom of the Palestinian leader Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad.

Committee Formed for Occupied Areas Affairs

NC0406102188 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0925 GMT 4 Jun 88

[Text] Cairo, 4 Jun (MENA)—The Fatah Revolutionary Council, at a meeting held recently in Tunis, decided to form a committee to take charge of the affairs of the occupied territories in place of martyr Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad. The members of the committee are Rafiq al-Natshah, PLO representative in Saudi Arabia; Muhammad 'Afanah, deputy chief of staff of the Palestine Liberation Army; and Akram Haniyah, deported Palestinian writer. The committee chairman has not yet been appointed.

The weekly magazine UKTUBAR, in its issue to be published tomorrow, Sunday, reports that during its meetings the council also took up the issues of the security of the Palestinian revolution and its internal organization. It was decided to make some changes within the Fatah Movement in the next few days and not to wait for the general conference.

Commentary Urges Summit To Support 'Uprising'

JN0606203488 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1702 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Station commentary: "The Clash of Wills Under the Glitter of the Escalating Uprising"]

[Text] Dear brothers, O you sons of our great Palestinian people, O sons of our glorious Arab nation: With its great entry into its 7th month, our heroic and blessed uprising confirms it is the central link around which events and reactions revolve in the entire region. This confirmation is being demonstrated for all to see by the following manifestations:

1. The uprising is entering its 7th month with new momentum bolstered by the force of action and its continuation. This force and continuation took the form of a general strike, which has continued for the 4th consecutive day. This force and continuation were also manifested by the fierceness of the process of completing the infrastructure of the uprising, by working strenuously to reach the stage in which the uprising masses will take the reins of initiative on a large scale throughout the occupied territories and also by the great successes scored in confusing, besieging, and exposing the enemy and freezing any political activity it might try to launch, with the aim of keeping the enemy in a continuous state of impotence. This will result in seeing it degenerate daily into the abyss of crime.

2. The convening of the emergency Arab summit in Algiers, the uprising summit, and the success of the uprising in bringing about the convocation of this Arab summit mean it has succeeded in directing and focusing Arab attention on its principles; namely, the principles of the Palestinian struggle. This also means it has succeeded in bringing the fraternal Arabs closer to the possibility of crystallizing a political stand through which they can face the world and through which they can deal with the open conflict, especially if we take into account that the fraternal Arabs currently have a good chance to turn the heroic uprising into a source of strength for them and their resolutions, inasmuch as it is a source of strength for the Palestinian people and the PLO.

3. The U.S. Administration, against its own will, has been forced to race against time. This has been demonstrated by Shultz' fourth tour of the region. Now, the Americans have unequivocally and clearly come to understand that their continuous beating about the bush without directly tackling the central issue might push the situation toward developments for which they are not ready, especially if we bear in mind that the current U.S. Administration of President Reagan is living its last days before a new administration takes over. Furthermore,

the elections in the Zionist entity are in the offing and the forces within the Zionist entity cannot find the direction of the wind without the use of the U.S. compass. This is the motive which has prompted George Shultz to initiate his new frenzied moves. Shultz has arrived in the region amidst the cries of the Palestinians who curse him.

Under the glitter of the heroic escalating uprising, the clash of wills assumes larger proportions of clarity. The adversaries are confronting each other in an exposed arena. Besides, the bright sun of the uprising leaves no room for interlocked shadows. The Palestinians who are at the forefront of clashes want to see the Arab depth join them through the crystallization of a clear and decisive stand at the Algiers summit. They seek to see a stand pronouncing public and unequivocal support for the uprising, on both official and popular levels. They also want a stand that reiterates Palestinian and Arab constants regarding the proposed solution formulas.

We are not asking for too much and this is not impossible. This is important, as the fraternal Arabs, or to be precise some of them, tried to reach to something through the pursuit of single-handed tactics. However, they have not succeeded. The necessities dictated by state and regional interests make it imperative that they return to the norms and dictates of joint action under the glitter of the uprising and in accordance with the Palestinian constants, which were approved by all previous Arab summits.

On the other hand, the Zionists know that the horizon before them is being blocked and that unpredictable eventualities look them in the face. They are exerting pressure to make the United States initiate moves to save them from the deadly dilemma. This is the cause of the return of George Shultz, who is carrying an empty bag to the region. George Shultz is voicing repeated statements that contain nothing new. Through his old proposals, the U.S. secretary of state seeks to fragment the unity of Palestinian representation. He seeks to see Palestinians participate in the negotiations with an Egyptian delegation — Palestinians from the Gaza Strip. He also seeks to see Palestinians from the West Bank participate in the negotiations with a Jordanian delegation. Furthermore, he lays down the condition that these Palestinians be non-PLO members.

First of all, the game is exposed and it stands no chance of success, as the Palestinian people are one people, whether they live in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, the Galilee, the Triangle, the Negev or as exiles in camps, no matter how near or far away these camps are. The one and united Palestinian people have their sole legitimate representative; namely, the PLO. When the PLO says no, George Shultz' attempts to find anyone who might say yes to him will be in vain.

It seems the pressure of time affecting the U.S. Administration, the grave fears harbored by the Zionist entity, and the fear that the uprising might enter new and comprehensive phases prompted the United States to fire poisonous and failing arrows in the hope they might score a hit. But it remains to be said that the U.S. arrows failed to score a hit and thus were thwarted. The clash of wills continues unabated and escalates. We have decided to triumph. Revolution until victory.

Al-Quds Radio Carries 'Uprising' Call No 19

JN0606172788 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1546 GMT 6 Jun

["Call No 19" issued by "popular and national committees of the uprising"; date not given]

[Text] No voice can rise above the voice of the uprising. No voice can rise above the voice of the people of Palestine.

Call No 19, the call of the detainees of the uprising.

O masses of our great people, you are fully adhering to the march of your escalating popular uprising. You are adhering to our people's legitimate national rights — including the right to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent state — and you are firmly rallying around the PLO, your sole legitimate representative, declaring your decisive reply to all plots, projects, and options aimed at harming our national rights and liquidating our cause through Camp David and Shultz' initiative.

O masses of our brave people. As the Reagan-Gorbachev summit has failed to reach an agreement on the Middle East crisis and its central issue, the Palestine question, as a result of the intransigent U.S. position and its hostility to our people's aspirations and legitimate national rights, we hail the Soviet support for our cause and we stress our categorical rejection of Shultz' initiative and his tours of the region, which represent a new link in his desperate atempts to abort your glorious uprising. They also represent an additional attempt to exercise U.S. pressures on some Arab sides to affect the Arab summit's political resolutions and spread Shultz' initiative and unilateral solutions in harmony with U.S. imperialist plans in the region.

The meetings, which were and being held between Rabin, Zionist war minister and terrorist, and some agents who have departed from our people's victorious march and their national will, are no more than attempts to create weak alternatives to represent our people and ignore our sole legitimate representative.

The suspect activity of the agent newspaper AL-NAHAR to establish a research center and its attempt to spread poison through its pages, as well as the suspect activity of its officials, are only an attempt to mislead our people and spread confusion and division among their ranks to

divert them from the sound national course. The popular and national committees of the uprising stress their firm condemnation of any meetings with any U.S. and Zionist politicians. They also stress that any talks with our people should take place through our sole legitimate representative.

O masses of our struggling people, through the unity of your will, sacrifices, and the escalation of the uprising, you epitomize the decisive reply to your enemies' claim that the uprising is fading away and that your struggle has weakened.

Despite all means of fascist repression and persecution which are being stepped up by the enemy forces against the masses of the victorious uprising, the uprising is achieving day after day more goals in regaining our freedom and liberation through escalating your boycott of the occupation organs, such as the growing resignations from the Civil Administration Department, not paying taxes to the suckers of our people's blood, boycotting Zionist products, supporting national industries, boycotting work in settlements, effectively cultivating our lands, breeding animals, rationalizing consumption, storing basic items, achieving family and social solidarity, reinforcing the organs of the people's authority, escalating struggle against the fascist occupation forces and the deviationists, and fully abiding by the militant program and resolutions of the uprising's popular and national committees.

This great achievement puts the accelerating march of the uprising on the threshold of a new phase of the struggle — the phase of full-scale civil disobedience. An announcement on this will be made as the requirements for its implementation become available, with completing the construction of institutions of the people's authority in all of the Palestinian cities, villages, and camps topping the list. As the uprising's popular and national committees salute the steadfastness of our heroic detaineees in the camps of neo-Nazism in the Negev, Al-Zahiriyah, 'Atlit, Ansar, Majiddu, and Al-Fari'ah, as well as all the other detention centers, they stress the need for the resignation forthwith of the appointed village and municipal councils; policemen; customs and tax officers; traffic policemen; and housing, identity card, and birth registration bureau personnel. The uprising's popular and national committees urge a boycott of Zionist goods, clean bills of payment, and withholding of tax payments.

We applaud the attitude of those who have heeded the uprising's call to resign from the above-mentioned agencies and departments, especially those who quit the traffic department. We applaud the heroic resistance to the repressive occupation measures and the scheme of changing identity cards by our masses in the Gaza Strip. We applaud our courageous merchants for abiding by the commercial strike and organizing the opening of their stores until 1200. We caution our people against the propagandistic and psycholgical war waged by enemy agencies and agents through media organs or phony leaflets. One of the novel tactics resorted to by Zionist intelligence in spying on people's activities and making arrests is driving cars with West Bank and Gaza Strip license plates and wearing Palestinian folk dress.

We applaud the influential role of our courageous student population in the uprising. As we emphasize that resumption of classes marked an achievement of the uprising and an expression of the enemy's predicament, we urge our children, teachers, and academic institutions to regularly hold classes and make up for lost days by going to school on official holidays. We urge total observance of full-scale strike days and office hours until 1200 on normal days. We also urge intensifying popular classes to raise the standard of our pupils' education and so they can make up days missed.

We also call on our pupils to continue to join the uprising's activiteis and stage demonstrations, rallies, and sit-ins in solidarity with fellow detainees. We call upon our heroic laborers to set up further unified worker committees and join existing trade union frameworks to further their rights and their national struggle. We emphasize that working hours should not be increased or any deductions made from any worker's pay on account of the days of full-scale strike. We stress the need to do away with busing, as it is a departure from the practice of opening commerical stores. We warn all of those who promote Zionist products under Arab names and call on the striking forces to enforce this.

O masses of our valiant uprising, as we congratulate you on your uprising's entering its 7th month with all vigor, we salute your determination to carry it forward on the road of our people's rights to repatriation, self-determination, and statehood. We likewise salute the steadfastness of our heroic kinfolk under siege and our strugglers in the detention centers, our wounded, and the relatives of our martyrs and deportees.

We call upon you to implement the following program of struggle:

1. The 9th of June will be a day of general strike to mark the beginning of the uprising's 7th month and the fall of the first of the uprising's martyrs.

2. The 11th of June will be a day of solidarity with our heroic detainees. Sit-ins, marches, and demonstrations will be held on that day under the supervision of the committees for solidarity with detainees at Red Cross centers.

3. The 13th of June will be a day for strengthening the building of the power of the people, on which our masses will strengthen the formation and the spreading of popular and specialized committees in all areas.

4. The 15th of June will be a day of general strike in solidarity with students and detainees and to bolster popular education.

5. The 16th of June will be a day for storing food and medical supplies, fuel, and other essential supplies.

6. The 18th of June will be a day of intensive mass escalation under the slogan of rallying around the PLO and insisting on our people's rights to repatriation, self-determination, and a national state. On that day blows will be dealt to those who do not comply with our people's will.

7. The 19th of June will be a day for a complete boycott of the Civil Administration departments to boost mass resignations and the laws of the people's power.

8. The 20th of June will be the day of the martyred Palestinian child on which children's marches and visits to the parents of our martyred children will be organized.

9. The 22d of June will be a day of general strike, a day for turning to the land, reclaiming and cultivating it, and destroying and burning the enemy's industrial and agricultural property.

10. Fridays and Sundays will be days for prayers for the souls of our martyrs and days for tumultuous marches and demonstrations.

O our people, let there be further escalation and confrontation of the enemy forces and settlers by resorting to all methods of popular resistance, including the sacred stone and the incendiary Molotov cocktail. We will follow the martyrs' will in our resistance. God is with us. Victory is near. Together along the path of liberating land and man.

Attempt To Form Jerusalem-Based News Agency Fails
JN0406191888 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Jun 88

[Text] Press sources in Palestine report that an attempt to establish a new Palestinian news agency in East Jerusalem has failed after the Zionist authorities confiscated a large sum of money earmarked for the establishment of this news agency, which would replace the Palestine Press Service [PPS] that was managed by Raymonda al-Tawil. The PPS was closed last March for a 6-month period on the written order of the commander of the so-called central region.

The press sources said the sum of $180,000 was confiscated from a U.S. tourist at Lod airport. The U.S. tourist admitted he had gotten this sum from Arab quarters in the United States to deliver to certain figures in East Jerusalem for the establishment of a news agency in the Ahram building, which is near Herod's Gate.

Egypt

Mubarak Visits Husayn in Baghdad, Returns Home

NC0706185388 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1830 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Cairo, 7 Jun (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak and his accompanying delegation arrived in Cairo at 2055 today, Cairo time, following a 7-hour visit to Iraq.

During the visit, Mubarak met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and discussed with him ways of reinforcing bilateral cooperation. The Middle East problem and ways of resolving it were also examined at the talks. In addition, President Mubarak was briefed on the conditions in Iraq and the situation at the war front.

In an arrival statement, President Mubarak said that President Saddam Husayn is well and full of confidence. He added that morale is high among the Iraqi people, whom he wished success. Mubarak also voiced hope for an early end to the war. [passage omitted]

Preceded by Message, Envoy

NC0506110288 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jun (MENA)—Iraqi President Saddam Husayn has received a message from his brother President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. The message was delivered by Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the Presidential Office for Political Affairs, when the Iraqi president received him this morning.

Dr al-Baz told the MENA correspondent in Baghdad that the message contained congratulations from President Mubarak and the Egyptian people on Iraq's recent victories, which underline the fact that Iraq is the protective shield of the Arab nation in this strategic region and that it constitutes a huge fighting reserve, both now and in the future.

He said that President Mubarak also expressed his congratulations once again to his brother President Saddam Husayn on the failure of the recent Iranian attack on Al-'Awjah village in the Salah al-Din Province, which proved that Iran is now desperate and has lost its balance.

Dr al-Baz pointed out that President Mubarak's message dealt with a number of Arab issues currently under discussion in the Arab world. It is an indication of the eagerness of the two leaders to coordinate their stands on all issues of importance, he stated.

Asked what these issues are, Dr al-Baz said they include the Gulf war and the efforts being exerted on the international level for the full and unconditional implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 598. They also include the latest developments in the Palestinian issue, particularly those resulting from the heroic uprising of the Arab Palestinian people, he declared.

Dr al-Baz added that President Saddam Husayn has asked him to convey a message in reply to President Mubarak. This message confirms the deep relations between the two presidents and peoples and shows that the views of the two countries on current issues are identical, he stated. This closeness of views stems from the fact that both Egypt and Iraq share a special responsibility in safeguarding the Arab homeland's supreme national interests and defending its rights and security in the face of all dangers, and that they have a duty toward the future, he said.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Ibrahim 'Awf, Egypt's ambassador to Iraq.

Cairo TV on Shultz Initiative, Israeli Attitude

NC0706095288 Cairo Television Service in English 1715 GMT 6 Jun 88

["Spotlight on the News"]

[Text] More than 1 and 1/2 million Palestinians went on a 3-day strike in the occupied West Bank towns and in the Gaza Strip as United States Secretary of State George Shultz began his fourth Middle East shuttle since the introduction of what has come to be known as the Shultz peace initiative.

Now, many are those who see the Palestinian strike in the occupied territories to be a sign of protest rather than a form of retaliation. Granted the strike is a sign of protest, but a protest against whom and what? The protest which seems to be fueled by a sense of bitterness is not against the United States as such. Otherwise, the Palestinians wouldn't have tried to establish contact with Washington through third parties, through Arab and foreign countries, and through eminent American citizens of Palestinian origin held in high esteem by the Washington administration.

Again, the Palestinians are not against the Shultz plan, since the American peace initiative has its positive aspects just as it has its negative aspects, which remain debatable and could be rectified. For, again, were the protest an outright rejection of the Shultz plan, there would be no attempt by the Palestinians—and indeed attempts there are—to have their views and observations on all provisions of the American initiatives conveyed to the United States Administration and to the secretary of state personally to keep the peace process going. So the protest is not against the United States as such and is definitely not an outright rejection of the Shultz plan.

The protest in the occupied land is a sign of frustration and an expression of bitterness and anger over Israel's manipulation of prevalent conditions in the United States; this year

in particular, the year of the American presidential elections. Not only is Israel adamant on dissipating the slightest hope for progress in the Middle East peace process, but she is harnessing the electoral mood and electoral prerequisites for outright political pressure, going so far as to embarrass the United States Administration by pressuring it into vetoing unanimous Security Council resolutions denouncing Israel's flagrant violations of human rights in the occupied Arab territories.

Whenever the United States embarks on a new round for the enhancement of the peace process, Israel conjures up the appropriate scenario that would nip American efforts in the bud and make sure that the reins remain irrevocably in Israeli hands. Let's look at the scenario orchestrated by the Israeli Government to cope with or rather combat the American secretary of state's current endeavors on his present Middle East shuttle. A campaign of outright Israeli hostility, not just rejection, to the Shultz plan was unleashed before the American leading diplomat had taken off from his country for another go at the complex tragedy of the Middle East.

In Tel Aviv Prime Minister Shamir, following his nomination this week by the Likud Party for the premiership of the Israeli Government in the coming general elections in his country, reiterates that Israel recognizes neither the Palestinian rights nor the international peace conference. In other words, Shamir blows up the very foundation of the Shultz plan, or for that matter any peace plan, whatever its source or nature, since there can be no thought of a peace endeavor in the first place if the usurping power refuses to endorse the principle that those moaning under the heel of occupation have any rights at all.

Then comes the role of the second protagonist in the Israeli scenario, Yitzhaq Rabin, the defense minister, who is all the more blunt and outspoken and says that the Shultz visit would be a total failure. He goes so far as to declare arrogantly that the Israeli leaders are receiving the American secretary of state out of pure courtesy, because of what he calls the friendship binding the two countries. Experience has shown that the word friend in Israeli terminology is a person or country that can be used for the furtherance of Israeli ambitions. In other words, the friendly disposition should always be one-sided, sheer exploitation for self-styled ends.

Pursuing her drive to founder all and every peace endeavor, Israel today says that the time of the American initiative is over and that its chances are nil. Elaborating, Defense Minister Rabin explains that the Shultz plan comes in the American and Israeli election year. He goes on to say that had the United States' peace initiative been proposed a year earlier it might have had better chances. Nothing but outright verbal juggling to justify Israeli procrastination and intransigence.

Rabin's strange claim implies that the peace process was born with the Shultz plan and that prior to that plan there were no peace initiatives; no talk of Palestinian rights; no denunciation of Israeli repressive measures in the occupied Arab land, of the Israeli drive to change the demographic conditions in those territories, of Israel's flagrant violations of the Geneva conventions, and of her persistence to obliterate Palestinian identity and entity. There are piles of United Nations resolutions condemning Israel in unmistakable terms for her intransigence and refusal to restore Palestinian legitimate rights, and there are scores of decisions taken at European summits endorsing those rights and calling upon Israel to apply the provisions of international law and the United Nations Charter, which prohibit the annexation of land by the force of arms.

The United States has been a direct partner to the peace process all through and has come up with many a peace initiative for a Middle East settlement long before the election year Mr Rabin is quoting as a pretext today. Yet election year or no election year, Israel not only turns a deaf ear to world appeals, but combats all and every peace endeavor, irrespective of who happens to be at the helm in Israel at the time. Has Rabin, Shamir, or whoever is behind that naive and primitive argument, which is an outright insult to human intelligence, have they by any chance forgotten that the Middle East peace process has remained ever alive since its initiation under the Carter administration, and that the Reagan administration is already well into its 8th year?

It is true that the peace process has had its ups and downs through the years, reaching many a stalemate and sometimes becoming literally frozen, but never was the peace process dead. Rather, many were the times when the United States and Europe joined hands to give Middle East peace endeavors a big boost by furnishing the Israelis with so many alternatives in a bid to iron out whatever difficulties and steer matters toward a final settlement.

But for the Israelis all alternatives, by necessity, converge on one irrevocable point: return of the land. It's more of a nightmare that dissipates Israel's long-cherished dreams. Israel, as explained bluntly by Shamir and his colleagues, wants both peace and the land. She believes that the old English saying: he wants the penny and the cake, which people often quote ironically when referring to the frustrating avidity of some individual. [sentence as heard] Israel believes she is the one exception that can apply this proverb literally and get away with it. She wants peace, but not without the loot. Came the answer to Shamir's hopes and conjectures from the Palestinians in the occupied land, who defied Israel's war machine with nothing but stones and empty bottles, to remind the Israeli Government that the irrevocable equation remains peace against the land. [sentence as heard] Otherwise, there would be no peace and no land, since a land ravaged by mounting strife and turmoil can hardly be the prize Israel dreams of.

American Secretary of State Shultz has said it all this week. He declared King Husayn of Jordan will not engage in peace talks with Israel unless he was sure Israel would give back the occupied territories. On another vital point, Mr Shultz said the United States agrees to an international peace conference and is working for its convocation. These are the two fundamentals advocated by Washington for Middle East peace, and those are the very fundamentals the Shamir government rejects flatly.

Mr Shultz explained on a previous visit to the area that progress in the peace process should be measured in inches, and not in feet or yards. Granted, progress should be measured in inches or even in smaller fractions, but only, we repeat only, when the two opposite sides have a common ground for discussion. In the case of the Middle East, Israel says no to everything and anything, rejects the very thought of considering the problem, and defies the power of any country or person to make her see matters differently.

For progress to be made in any measure, the intransigent party should start off by conceding the inalienable rights of others and show readiness for the restoration of those rights. Otherwise, it becomes a matter of outright usurpation and looting, and in such a case the word progress does not apply and stands no chance.

Central African Republic President Ends Visit

NC0806083388 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Central African Republic President Andre Kolingba left Cairo this morning with Mrs Kolingba and their accompanying delegation. They are going to Aswan for a private visit to last several hours before departing for home. He was seen off at Cairo Airport by President and Mrs Husni Mubarak. An official send-off ceremony was held at the Republican Palace in Al-Qubbah.

Ugandan Interior Minister Arrives in Cairo

NC0506192988 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1506 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jun (MENA)—Ugandan Interior Minister Ibrahim Mukiibi arrived in Cairo this afternoon on an official visit to Egypt. During his stay, the Ugandan minister will hold talks with Interior Minister Zaki Badr, who welcomed him at the airport.

Upon his arrival, the Ugandan minister expressed his happiness at being in Cairo, saying that his visit is in accordance with the cooperation agreement signed by both countries aimed at furthering bilateral ties.

Meets With Interior Minister

NC0606142888 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jun (MENA)—Interior Minister Zaki Badr received visiting Ugandan Interior Minister Ibrahim Mukiibi and his accompanying delegation at his office in Cairo today.

During the meeting, which was attended by several assistants to the interior ministers, the Egyptian and Ugandan officials discussed ways of cooperating in security-related fields and the means of strengthening ties between the Interior Ministries of the two countries.

Yesterday morning, the Ugandan interior minister visited the Cairo Department of Security and was given a briefing on the system of work there. He inspected the central operations room, the criminal laboratory, and the Criminal Investigation Branch of the department.

The Ugandan interior minister and his entourage arrived in Cairo yesterday for a visit lasting a few days.

Botswana Foreign Minister Arrives on Visit

NC0506062588 Cairo MENA in English 0555 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] Cairo, 5 June (MENA)—Foreign Minister of Botswana Miss Gaositwe Chiepe arrived here early this morning from Dar es Salaam on a five-day official visit at the invitation of Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali.

Official talks between the two countries are due to begin tomorrow to discuss bilateral relations, African issues and current international developments.

Meets With Butrus Ghali

NC0506195288 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1840 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jun (MENA)—Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, held talks with Miss Gaositwe Chiepe, Botswana's external affairs minister, who is currently visiting Egypt. They reviewed bilateral relations in various political, economic, cultural, and technical fields, as well as developments in South Africa. The two sides denounced the racist and aggressive actions practiced by the South African Government against the people and states in southern Africa.

Dr Ghali stated that the visit of Botswana's external affairs minister is regarded as a constructive step toward bolstering and promoting friendly relations between the Arab Republic of Egypt and Botswana, and that it establishes a new framework for development of these relations in various domains.

Dr Ghali added that during the visit by Botswana's external affairs minister, an agreement for cooperation between the two countries will be signed, whereby Botswana will receive Egyptian expertise in the medical and educational spheres.

A joint communique will be issued at the end of the visit that will include the views of the two countries on the various issues concerning Egypt and Botswana in the African and international fields.

Aviation Cooperation Accord Signed With Kuwait

NC0606050288 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jun (MENA)—Egypt and Kuwait signed an agreement today for cooperation in air transport. Major General 'Ali Ziku, head of Egypt's civil aviation organization, signed for Egypt, and Ya'qub al-Saqr, head of Kuwait's civil aviation organization, signed on behalf of Kuwait.

Maj Gen Ziku said that the most important aspect of the agreement concerns the procedures for protecting planes against hijacking by tightening security measures at airports. The agreement, Ziku added, also allows more than one airline company in either country to carry passengers between the two countries.

Mubarak Reorganizes NDP General Secretariat

NC0506101188 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has issued a decree reorganizing the NDP's General Secretariat as follows:

1. General Secretariat Bureau: Dr Yusuf Wali, secretary general; Muhammad Safwat al-Sharif, assistant secretary general; Kamal al-Shadhili, assistant secretary general; and Dr Ahmad Salamah, assistant secretary general; and

2. General Secretariat: Dr Yusuf Wali, secretary general; Muhammad Safwat al-Sharif, secretary general [as heard]; Kamal al-Shadhili, assistant secretary general and secretary for organizational affairs; Dr Ahmad Salamah, assistant secretary general; Dr Amal 'Uthman, secretary for women's affairs; Dr Mamduh Jabr, secretary for tradesmen; Mamduh 'Azab, secretary for peasants' affairs; Mukhtar 'Abd al-Hamid, secretary for workers' affairs; Sayyid Zaki 'Abd al-Hadi, secretary for artisans' affairs; 'Izzat Ghidan, secretary for trade and industry affairs; Dr Kamal Abu al-Khayr, secretary for youth; Dr Butrus Ghali, member; Eng Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahab, member; 'Asim 'Abd al-Haq, member; Fathallah Rif'at, member; Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah, member; Ahmad al-'Amawi, member; Ihab Maqlad, member; and Tawfiq 'Abduh Isma'il, member.

Mubarak Nominates New Ambassadors, Consuls

NC0106121388 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2145 GMT 31 May 88

[Excerpt] Cairo, 31 May (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has issued a decree nominating 37 Egyptian ambassadors and consuls abroad. This includes the nomination of Ahmad Sidqi, Egypt's ambassador in Portugal, as ambassador to France; Mrs Huda al-Marasi, Egyptian charge d'affaires at the Egyptian Embassy in Italy, as ambassador to Italy; and Assistant Foreign Minister Mamduh 'Abd al-Razzaq, as ambassador to Switzerland.

The decree also includes the nomination of Muhammad Shakir, director of the Western Europe Department at the Foreign Ministry, as ambassador to England; Ahmad Mahir al-Sayyid, director of the Legal Department at the Foreign Ministry, as ambassador to Moscow; Isma'il Mubarak, director of the Protocol Department at the Foreign Ministry, as ambassador to the Vatican; Muhab Muqbil, director of the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Office, as ambassador to Jordan; Badr Hamam, director of the Israeli Department at the Foreign Ministry, as ambassador to China; Samir Sayf Yazal, deputy director of the Foreign Minister's Office, as ambassador to Portugal; and Mansur al-Wali, deputy director of the African Department, as ambassador to Albania.

According to the decree, 'Adil al-'Adawi is nominated as Egypt's ambassador to Burma; Mukhtar al-Hamzawi as consul general in Marseilles; Ahmad Fu'ad 'Abd al-Hayy, as ambassador to Venezuela; 'Adil 'Abd al-Salam as ambassador to Senegal; Isma'il Makhluf, director of the Asian Department of the Foreign Ministry, as ambassador to Pakistan; Nasir Mahdi as ambassador to Cyprus; Nabil Hilmi as ambassador to Czechoslovakia; Wahib al-Minyawi, director of the Latin America Department at the Foreign Ministry, as ambassador to Japan; Husayn al-Kamil, director of the Arab Department at the Foreign Ministry, as ambassador to Belgium; Nasrat Na'im as ambassador to Ivory Coast; 'Adil al-Samawi as ambassador to Chile; Isma'il Mutawalli as ambassador to Djibouti; Khayrat 'Isa as ambassador to Ecuador; Ahmad al-Khayr as ambassador to Colombia; Fikri Nakhlah as ambassador to Zaire; Salah Zaki as ambassador to Guinea; Amin Yusri as ambassador to the YAR; Muhsin Khalifah as ambassador to Benin; Hasan al-'Ujayzi as ambassador to Finland; Muhammad al-Shurayi as ambassador to Hungary; 'Ismat 'Abd al-Latif as ambassador to Guinea-Bissau; Nabil Ibrahim as ambassador to Bahrain; Jalal 'Abd al-Mu'iz as ambassador to Chad; Fadil Duhaybah as ambassador to Guatemala; Isma'il Hafiz, as consul general in Chicago; Mustafa Abu Shunayf as consul general in Riyadh; and Mahmud Shukri as consul general in Rome. [passage omitted]

Libya

Italian Ambassador Summoned for F-16 Protest

LD0706133288 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] This morning the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison summoned the Italian ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah to convey to him the concern of the Great Jamahiriyah concerning the Italian Government's decision to receive the U.S. F-16's which are to be removed from Spain.

The aircraft are to be based at one of the military bases in the south of Italy and this will escalate tension in the region, double the size of the U.S. military presence,

which threatens the peace and security of the Mediterranean basin, and contradict the resolutions of international and territorial organizations in connection with the Mediterranean Sea, especially those of the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement, in its final statement in Havana on 31 May, concerning peace and security in the Mediterranean.

YAR Delegation Stops Over En Route to Algiers

LD0706123088 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1155 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 7 Jun (JANA)—Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the YAR president, and the delegation accompanying him stopped over this morning at Tripoli International Airport on his way to Algiers.

Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih was given a big welcome at Tripoli International Airport where the leader of the revolution led the welcomers. [passage omitted]

Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih made a statement to JANA in which he said: "I am very pleased to periodically meet the brother leader of the revolution and his free colleagues in the Libyan Jamahiriyah."

He added that this brotherly meeting will enable us to exchange views on the emergency Arab summit, which will be held today in Algiers to discuss, support, and back up the uprising of the Palestinian Arab people.

He said: "We hope to come to positive conclusions that will serve Arab solidarity; a clear vision at the service of our Palestinian Arab people and our Arab nation. We are optimistic."

Transportation Agreement Signed With Tunisia

LD0706092288 Tripoli JANA in English 0802 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Tripoli, June 6, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Signing took place yesterday on a protocol agreement in the field of provision between the secretary of the General People's Committee for Communications and Marine Transport and the minister of provision [title as heard] in the sisterly Tunisian Republic.

The agreement included the start in building of Ras Ijdair-Madnin Road—approximately 109 kilometers long—part of which will be built by joint efforts from national Libyan and Tunisian companies starting on 1 September next.

Also agreed upon was the formation of a joint work team to study the technical and financial aspects and the required specification for "Madnin-Sfax" road—210 kilometers long—and to present a report on it to the concerned authorities in both sisterly countries, as soon as possible.

Agreement also was reached on the need to ease the formalities on the national companies in both countries and take the necessary step to treat them on equal footing. They agreed on the need to getting acquainted with the potentials in the field of equipment and the possibility of making use of "Georges" Port.

Algerian Heavy Industry Minister Ends Visit

LD0706094688 Tripoli JANA in English 0820 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 7, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The Algerian minister of heavy industry and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli yesterday evening at the end of a visit to Great Jamahiriyah.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Senegalese Envoy, Message

LD0506122888 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1150 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] Tripoli, 5 Jun (JANA)—The brother leader of the revolution received Brother Moustapha Cisse, envoy of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, who conveyed to him a message from President Diouf dealing with relations between the Great Jamahiriyah and Senegal, as well as the Jamahiriyah's distinguished role in the African Continent.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Algerian Ambassador

LD0406105288 Tripoli JANA in English 0835 GMT 4 Jun 88

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 4, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution yesterday received Abdelkader Hadjar, the Algerian ambassador to Great Jamahiriyah.

Present at the reception was the secretary of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau to Algeria.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Lebanese Lecturers

LD0306130988 Tripoli JANA in English 0837 GMT 3 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution received yesterday a delegation of Lebanese lecturers currently on a visit to Great Al-Jamahiriyah.

A debate was conducted on the dicta of the Green Book together with what has been achieved in Great Al-Jamahiriyah such as the victory of freedom, bringing closer the day of realizing the overall Arab unity, the demolition of prisons, the elimination of artificial borders among the one Arab people, opening the door of Great Al-Jamahiriyah to all Arabs and the document of human rights that was discussed by the basic people's congresses. [passage omitted]

Economy Secretary Meets Sudanese Trade Minister
LD0206180688 Tripoli JANA in English 1428 GMT 2 Jun 88

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The secretary of the People's Committee for Economy and Commerce has met this morning in Tripoli Mr. Mubarak al-Mahdi, the minister of trade of sisterly Sudan.

Present at this meeting was the Sudanese ambassador in Tripoli.

The two sides have discussed the existing cooperation between the 2 sisterly countries and ways for promoting it in various spheres to achieve the common interests.

Morocco

Embassy 'Source' Reiterates Sahara Policy
JN0706211188 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 6 Jun 88 p 30

[Unattributed report]

[Text] Morocco has affirmed that its position on the Sahara issue is firm and unchanged, that it continues to reject any contacts or direct negotiations with the Polisario. A responsible source in the Moroccan Embassy in Kuwait denied press reports that Algeria has presented a compromise solution to end the Sahara war stipulating the establishment of autonomy for the Western Sahara within the Moroccan Kingdom. The source asserted that these reports are baseless, that it is untrue that Morocco accepted such a proposition or agreed to hold direct negotiations with the Polisario.

The sources added that Morocco has always rejected such a thing and it continues to do so.

Sudan

Al-Banna, Iranian Official Discuss Ties, Issues
LD0706183688 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 7, IRNA—Iran's charge d'affaires in Khartoum Nematollah Qaderi held talks with the vice-president of Sudan's leadership council Idris al-Banna on Tehran-Khartoum relations as well as international and regional issues in the Sudanese capital on Monday.

Discussed at the meeting was deployment of chemical weapons by the Iraqi regime in Halabjah last March.

On March 18, Iraqi warplanes dropped chemical bombs on the Iranian liberated town of Halabjah, Al-Sulaymaniyah Province, martyring more than 5,000 defenceless Kurdish people and maiming over 7,000 others.

The Sudanese official lauded the Islamic Republic's support for his country in various fields.

Meanwhile, Qaderi also met Sudan's Minister of Energy and Mining [title as received] Bakri 'Adil the same day.

The Sudanese minister said Persian Gulf security should be maintained solely by the littoral states. He expressed hope that Tehran-Khartoum joint session would be held soon to help strengthen the two countries' relations.

The two also discussed the Iran-Sudan letter of understanding concerning economic, political and cultural issues.

Rebels Claim 'Dozens' of Enemy Casualties
EA0706063188 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Excerpt] An SPLA force of Bright Star Campaign comprising units of Fas and Geigar Task Forces, under the direct command of First Lieutenant (Isaiah Alier Machinkok) and First Lieutenant Faustina Ochan, raided the enemy troop positions at Keyala on 19th and 20th May 1988 respectively. A correspondent for the Radio SPLA in the area says that dozens of enemy troops were killed and wounded. The enemy also sustained damages in military equipment. [passage omitted]

SPLA Security Accord With Kapoeta Residents
EA0706083488 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Excerpt] A big meeting was held in (Namuriang) village of Karin Gak section of Toposa people of Kapoeta district on 10 May 1988, with the SPLA officers and the people of Toposa, Didinga, and Buya. According to our correspondent covering the meeting, the SPLA officers were well received and the meeting was held in an atmosphere of absolute peace. During the meeting, the following resolutions were agreed upon:

1. That all people holding illegally acquired arms in (Namuriang) area should be apprehended with cooperation of the chiefs, militia, and citizens, and the same also should also apply to any other criminals who have made (Namuriang) their hiding center.

2. That the hostility between Toposa of Karin Gak and Didinga should cease immediately and their normal trade relations be resumed.

3. That Karin Gak section gives its full support to the SPLM/SPLA. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

'Source' Denies Purchase of French Mirages

LD0706125688 Kuwait KUNA in English 1058 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Kuwait, June 7 (KUNA) — Kuwait Tuesday denied signing a deal to purchase Mirage-2000 aircraft from France.

A Defence Ministry source said in a statement to KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY (KUNA) that this report published by the French media is baseless, noting that the plan to purchase such kind of planes is still under consultations.

Several French papers and radios said today that the Mirage-2000 deal will help the French airplane company Dassault overcome its financial losses.

French newspaper LES ECHOES quoted French sources as saying that France and Kuwait might have signed a contract on the purchase of 40 Mirage-2000 planes including 20 of Mirage-2000 DI and another 20 of Mirage-2000 AS.

PDRY

Al-'Attas Receives Message from Kim Il-song

EA0706050988 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Text] Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, last night received Comrade (?Son Song-pil), DPRK minister of education [position as heard], who delivered to him a verbal message from Comrade Kim Il-song, secretary general of the Korean Workers Party and DPRK president, on relations between the two friendly countries and ways of strengthening and developing them in the interests of the Korean and Yemeni peoples.

During the meeting, the Presidium chairman stressed that our country was eager to develop cooperation between the two friendly countries in various fields. He reiterated our country's support for the DPRK's renewed efforts and initiatives towards the peaceful reunification of the Korean homeland. Brother al-'Attas charged Comrade (?Son Song-pil) with conveying his warm and comradely greetings to the Korean leader, Kim Il-song.

Minister Receives Cuban Military Delegation

EA0706060388 Aden ANA in Arabic 1420 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Text] Aden 6 Jun — Comrade Colonel Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad, member of the Political Bureau and defense minister, received at his office this morning the Cuban military delegation which attended the celebrations marking the 15th anniversary of the founding of the People's Militia. The delegation is led by Comrade General Rolando Kindelan, secretary of the Cuban Party's Committee on Military Relations.

During the meeting,the comrade defense minister welcomed the delegation and expressed deep satisfaction over the level of relations developed between the Yemeni and Cuban revolutions and the armies of the two friendly countries. This was patent in Cuba's loyal internationalist support of Democratic Yemen's armed forces.

Replying, the leader of the Cuban military delegation said he was pleased to be visiting Democratic Yemen and praised the country's achievements resulting from the YSP'S sound policies, including armed forces policies. He gave a briefing on the heroic struggle of the Cuban people against imperialist plots and U.S. ambitions in the region. He stressed his country's readiness to provide Democratic Yemen with sincere and internationalist aid at all times.

Saudi Arabia

Foreign Minister Comments on Algiers Arab Summit

AU0706120988 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1000 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Raimund Loew report on interview with Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud by ORF reporters Michael Kerbler and Roland Schmidl in Saudi Arabia "shortly before his departure for the Arab summit in Algiers"; recorded Al Sa'ud statements in English with superimposed German translation in quotation marks; portions in original English between slantlines]

[Text] For Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the Palestinian unrest in the West Bank and in Gaza is the most important topic of the Arab summit.

"/We are going to the summit within the context of what is now happening in the West Bank./"

Sa'ud al-Faysal says that the core of the Middle East conflict is not a conflict between Israel and its neighbors, but the Palestinian problem. The fact that for months children, women, and old people have been willing to stand up against Israeli bullets proves that the Palestinians will never acquiesce to the Israeli occupation, Sa'ud al-Faysal points out. The Saudis are speaking as the custodians of the holy sites of Mecca and Medina and in times of Islamic renaissance they derive a special moral authority from this. The foreign minister stresses the Arabs' willingness to negotiate:

"/We know for sure that the Arab countries are willing to negotiate a peaceful settlement./"

In Algiers the Arab countries will work out the basis for a solution by means of negotiations, the foreign minister says. The Saudis are going to Algeria with corresponding promises.

"But Israel rejects everything. The Israelis even reject thinking about a formula that might bring peace to the occupied territories. They reject the UN resolutions and now they even reject the Shultz plan. Even though it is the plan of a friendly country, it has been categorically rejected by Israel. Only the day before yesterday, we heard this from Shultz himself."

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal expresses satisfaction at the latest developments on the second big war front of the Arab states — in the Iraq-Iran war. Military successes by Iraq in the southern part of the front have pushed Iran onto the defensive for the first time in years.

The foreign minister hopes Iran's military defeats will weaken the Iranian leadership that has so far been totally uncompromising with regard to the Iraqi Government. If there are new chances for peace and the Iranians are willing to give up support for the Islamic opposition movements in the Gulf region, there would be no obstacle to peaceful coexistence with the Islamic Republic.

Says the foreign minister:

"/We have no conflict with Iran. It is a one-way street. They have a conflict with everybody in the region./ If Iran changes its policy and peace and stability have been ensured in the region, there is no longer any reason for a conflict."

Yemen Arab Republic

Salih Leaves for Arab Summit; Stops in Libya

JN0706221288 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, left this morning heading a high-ranking delegation from the Consultative Council, cabinet, and the Standing Committee of the General People's Congress to take part in the extraordinary Arab summit which will be held in Algiers between 7-9 June. [passage omitted]

The brother leader secretary general made a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY. The text is as follows:

We feel great joy as we head to the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria to participate in the extraordinary Arab summit meetings. The Arab nation and the Palestinian Arab people are pinning all their hopes on this meeting to support the vehement popular revolution in the occupied Palestinian territories and to intensify the power of solidarity in confronting all dangers and challenges. This should be done through a complete Arab view which urges joint Arab action to settle all remaining marginal disputes, tackle fateful issues, stand in one unified Arab rank to confront the Zionist conspiracy which aims to liquidate the popular Palestinian revolution, and to provide the revolution with all means of support.

This should be done in accordance with the historic responsibility which enforces joint action on the leaders of the Arab nation to support this just and human revolution. This revolution has awakened the international conscience from its sleep to realize that the Palestinian people are a people with a cause fighting for their land's liberty, for their legitimate rights, and for an independent state under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative, the PLO, on Palestinian soil.

This requires swift Arab action in all directions to foil the attempts of containment through which the Zionist enemy and those who support it are trying to thwart the popular uprising by all means.

The aims and objectives of the dangerous intensification resulting from the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war and the attempts at dragging other states in the region into this war have been revealed. This necessitates achieving a unified stand which guarantees a final end to this war and aborts all enemy conspiracies to divert the Arab and Islamic nation from the cause of liberating Islamic shrines from the profanity of occupation and usurpation.

This extraordinary summit will provide the chance for bilateral meetings between the leaders of the Arab nation to discuss bilateral relations to serve joint aims. We will not spare any effort with our brothers, the leaders of the Arab nation, to make this summit a historic turning point to urge the process of unity, solidarity, and concord toward wider horizons, so our Arab nation will be able to stand solidly unified in opinions and aims in the face of the various Zionist and imperialist dangers and challenges and to reach positive resolutions. This is what the Palestinian Arab people and all Arabs are aspiring to; in fact what the victorious Palestinian revolution process demands in its current stage to achieve the cherished victory in its just cause. [passagwe omitted]

The brother leader Secretary General Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih arrived at midday in Tripoli of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah where he was accorded a grand reception. At the forefront of the receivers was Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in Libya. The two leaders, Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, held a brief discussion at the airport after which they headed together on one plane to Algiers to participate in the Arab summit guaranteeing the victory of the uprising.

Reportage on 'Short Visit' by Egypt's Mubarak

Arrives in Baghdad 7 Jun

NC0706123488 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1217 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Jun (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak arrived in Baghdad with an accompanying delegation at 1430 today, Baghdad time, on a short visit to Iraq.

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, RCC members, Iraqi ministers and senior officials, as well as Ambassador Ibrahim 'Awf, Egypt's ambassador to Iraq, and Egyptian Embassy officials, met Mubarak at Baghdad Airport.

Following the official reception, President Mubarak and Husayn held two sessions of talks. The first session was attended by members of both delegations, and the second was a private meeting.

President Mubarak's accompanying delegation includes Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif; and Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs.

Meets With Saddam

JN0706222588 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1605 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt arrived in Baghdad at noon today on an official visit. His excellency the president was accorded a great official welcome. His Excellency President Saddam Husayn led those who welcomed him.

Also on hand to receive the Egyptian president were Vice President Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf; a number of RCC members; members of the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party; Ahmad Husayn, director of the president's office; cabinet ministers; Brigadier General Husayn Kamil, director of the Military Industries Organization [MIO] and acting industry and minerals minister; the president's secretary; the chief of staff; the Egyptian ambassador to Iraq; and embassy staff.

After a short respite in the great VIP lounge during which His Excellency President Saddam Husayn and his brother President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt exchanged cordial conversation, His Excllency President Saddam Husayn accompanied his guest His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak in an official procession to the latter's residence.

His Excellency President Saddam Husayn held a round of official talks with his brother His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of Egypt. The talks dealt with the strong fraternal bilateral relations, the overwhelming victories scored by our valiant Armed Forces in the battles fought for the liberation of Al-Faw and Al-Shalamjah [Shalamcheh], and Iraq's certain ability to safeguard its soil and defend the Arab nation's eastern flank.

His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak congratulated His Excellency President Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi people on our great victories we scored while we were defending great Iraq and the glorious Arab nation. The talks also dealt with the Arab situation in general.

The talks were attended on the Iraqi side by Latif Nusayyif Jasim, culture and information minister; Ahmad Husayn, director of the president's office; the president's secretary; and the Iraqi ambassador in Cairo.

For fraternal Egypt, the talks were attended by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Safwat al-Sharif, information minister; Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the president's office; Dr Zakariyah 'Azmi, secretary general of the presidency; Jamal 'Abd al-'Aziz, the president's secretary; and Dr Mustafa al-Faqi, the president's secretary for information and follow-up affairs.

His Excellency President Saddam Husayn hosted a great lunch banquet in honor of his guest, His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. The banquet was attended by members of the two sides to the talks. It was also attended by a number of RCC membrs, cabinet ministers, and a number of officials.

His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt left Baghdad at the conclusion of a short visit to Iraq. His excellency the president was accorded an official sendoff ceremony. His Excellency President Saddam Husayn led those who were present to see him off.

Also there to see the Egyptian president off were Vice President Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf; members of the RCC Party; director of the president's office Ahmad Husayn; cabinet ministers, and Brigadier General Husayn Kamil, MIO director and acting minister of industry and minerals; the president's secretary; a number of state officials; and the Egyptian ambassador and embassy staff in Baghdad.

Talks to Reporters, Departs

NC0706193788 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1815 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Jun (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak left Baghdad for Cairo this evening following a short visit to Iraq that lasted a few hours. President Mubarak, who was accorded an official farewell ceremony, was seen off at the airport by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, RCC members, ministers, and senior Iraqi officials. Ibrahim 'Awf, Egyptian ambassador to Iraq, and the Egyptian Embassy staff were also present at the farewell ceremony.

Following talks with the Iraqi President, an Iraqi reporter asked President Mubarak for his assessment of Iraqi-Egyptian relations. The president responded by praising these relations and noting that Egypt is eager to promote cooperation with Iraq to the fullest extent possible. The president described these relations as eternal and deep-rooted and noted that they cannot be affected by any passing occurrence. He added: Our contacts and cooperation never stopped, not even when our diplomatic ties were frozen.

President Mubarak affirmed that the Egyptian people wholeheartedly support Iraq and that some of our sons are living among the Iraqi people in full amity and with absolute gratitude.

He stressed: Our bilateral cooperation is limitless and our support for Iraq is complete. President Mubarak continued: We cannot forget Iraq's stand during the October war. I came to Iraq after the 1967 war, and stayed with the Iraqi brothers for 1 month. I have known my brother President Saddam Husayn very well for a long time. I have had full confidence in him since the first time we met. He is a sincere man who keeps his promises.

President Mubarak continued: Ever since the Gulf war started, I have found it necessary to keep in touch with the Iraqi president and to provide Iraq with all the assistance we can render so that we can live up to our brotherly relations. Today, he added, I came here to congratulate President Saddam Husayn on the victory in Al-Faw, which boosted morale in Egypt. Let me stress that Iraq neither wants to seize nor contemplates occupying the territory of others.

The president concluded his statement by saying: I came here to convey my happiness and that of the Egyptian people for the beginning of the victory, so that peace and amity may return to the region and the people's resources may not be squandered.

In another development, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn gave a statement to the Egyptian journalists accompanying President Mubarak in which he stressed that Iraq's victories in Al-Faw and Al-Shalamjah will have a great impact on the course of the war and will herald, God willing, the final victory.

The Iraqi president pointed out that Iran had used Al-Faw as a departure point for Basra. He added that Iran had also planned to use Basra as a foothold to apply pressure and to expand further, taking into account the fact that it could enter Kuwait by land from Al-Faw and Basra and subsequently pose a threat to the Gulf countries and the entire Arab Peninsula. The president stressed his country's belief in peace, because peace is the normal law of life while war is a temporary occurrence.

Asked to assess Iraqi victories in Al-Faw and Al-Shalamjah, the Iraqi president told the Egyptian journalists that this or that battle cannot bring the war to an end. We must realize that these two victories were made in the 8th year of the war. Had they taken place at the beginning of the war, they would not have had the same impact. He stressed that the fact that they occurred in the 8th year of the war give them additional prestige and weight.

President Saddam Husayn added: We have proven that Iran's capability is not up to standard, particularly because the Iranians were talking, just before these victories, about Iraq's inability to win the war. It is natural for Iran to talk this way because its ambitions on both the international and human levels are great. Iran wants to bring us into the age of darkness and wants to destroy the pillars of civilization by continuing the war, he said.

In his statement to Egyptian journalists, President Saddam Husayn noted that Iran is a neighboring country but emphasized that, despite all its claims, it seeks expansion. He stressed: Let me note here that had the recent victories been against Iraq, the war would have taken a different course. The Iraqi president said that Iran claims to be representing true Islamic doctrine, depicting the rest of the Muslims as deviating from that doctrine.

He emphasized that Iran wants to set up a great empire, but added that this goal has collapsed. The latest battles have proven that Iran is incapable of achieving this. This is particularly true since these victories came in the 8th year of the war, something which indicates that the Iranian people are tired of the war. This also indicates, the Iraqi president continued, that something wrong has happened in Iran in general, particularly with regard to the core of their doctrine and claims. The victory is proof that the Iranian people no longer respond to these claims.

Regarding Iraq's desire for peace, the Iraqi president said: Our peace initiatives stem from our belief in peace. They are not the result of any passing situation. Peace is the normal law of life while war is a passing and temporary matter. It is peace that governs our actions. We remain committed to peace even after we achieve military victories. We hold more tightly to peace today because we are engaged in a cultural struggle which we are winning. We are now more committed to and ready for peace than ever before.

In response to a question about the significance behind the appointment of Hashemi-Rafsanjani as acting commander in chief of the Iranian Armed Forces, President Saddam Husayn said:

Hashemi-Rafsanjani is a member of the Iranian regime, but he is not the number one man. He used to call himself Khomeyni's representative. His influence stemmed from his relations with Khomeyni personally and, consequently, he was more influential then. Today, however, he is on his own and not acting as Khomeyni's representative. This indicates the power struggle in Iran

and reflects the impasse that Iran is experiencing. The Iranians thought they could find a way out of their impasse, but I believe that the only way out of their predicament is if they abandon the war.

Regarding the situation in the northern battlefield and the remaining strong pockets in the south, the Iraqi president said that the Iranians in the north are weaker than they were 2 or 3 months ago. He added: Their agents in the north have been expelled, and most of them are now within Iranian territories. However, the Iranian regime, like any other regime, cannot see its strong or weak points. You will see it collapsed and finished in one full swoop.

Asked for Iraq's assessment of the Algiers summit and whether the conferees will reach positive recommendations, as well as Iraq's assessment of the inter-Arab differences and the fact that some parties are supporting Iran in the war, the Iraqi president said:

The Arab world is made up of 22 countries; 22 regimes, that is 22 cases. We have not yet reached the level of maturity that we wish to see in our countries. The situation in Egypt, for instance, is better than in other countries, but we are still passing through a stage in which we are trying to be better than we are now. However, the issue of selfishness one way or another plays a negative role and pushes some people into the wrong direction.

The Iraqi president added: Some of us have become mature enough to realize that we would be stronger if we were to close ranks. However, he said, some others believe that their prestige would be harmed if Egypt, Saudi Arabia, or Yemen, for instance, were to reach a certain level of capability. Such thinking is a big mistake. There are several factors that play an influential role in this respect.

For example, he added, the style adopted by my brother, President Mubarak, as well as our own style, are sound. We both believe that any mistakes made by some of our brothers can be forgiven, as long as they are not mistakes which involve treason. Both President Mubarak and I do not like to close the door to anyone, because we both have a national duty and a role to play. When we are faced with a weak case, we try to be patient and wait until things return back to the right course.

Asked how he thinks Arab solidarity could help end the Gulf war, the Iraqi president said that the Iranian regime does not respect anyone, not even itself. If the Iranian regime had some respect for itself, it would show respect for its people. The Iraqi president pointed out that by respect he means concern for people's lives. The fact is that the Iranian rulers are destroying their people and harming their interests. Nobody escaped from their aggression, including their neighbors, other countries, and even the regional and international waters. They have no respect for the Arab homeland, he added. Had they harbored any respect for the Arab world, they would not have attacked us. An example of their lack of respect is that they shelled Baghdad with rockets at the same time that the Amman Arab summit convened. That showed their lack of political awareness and their actions were taken on the basis of malice and a lack of respect, he concluded.

Li Ximing, CPC Officials Arrive for Talks

Meet with Ba'th Party

JN0406152988 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1320 GMT 4 Jun 88

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Jun (INA)—Party talks began here today between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the CPC.

The Iraqi side was led by Hasan 'Ali, Ba'th Party Regional Command member, while the PRC side was led by Li Ximing, CPC politburo member and Beijing Party Committee secretary.

Hasan 'Ali reviewed with the CPC official the march of the 17-30 July glorious revolutions led by the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the accomplishments scored by these revolutions in various spheres.

Hasan 'Ali affirmed Iraq's positive stands toward the international and regional endeavors and resolutions which have sought to end the Iraq-Iran war, the last of which was UN Security Council Resolution 598 which embodied the international community's will. He also referred to Iran's rejection of all of these efforts, including the said resolution.

The Iraqi party official called upon the five permanent member states of the UN Security Council to shoulder their responsibilities and implement UN Security Council Resolution 598 according to the sequence of its operative paragraphs and to implement the second article of the resolution which provides for sanctions against the party that rejects implementation of the resolution.

Li Ximing described UN Security Council Resolution 598 as a good basis for ending the Iraq-Iran war and said: We believe this resolution should be implemented fully and comprehensively.

Ximing also hailed the great accomplishments scored by the 17-30 July revolutions and said: What we have seen embodies the development scored by Iraq under President Saddam Husayn.

The two sides voiced the two parties' desire to develop bilateral ties of friendship and cooperation according to the cooperation agreement signed between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the CPC in the interest of the two peoples.

The two parties affirmed their constant and principled stand on the Palestine question and the struggle being waged by the Palestinian Arab people under the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative.

The talks also dealt with bilateral party relations, ways to enhance them, developments in the Iraq-Iran war, and ways to implement UN Security Council Resolution 598.

On the Iraqi side the talks were attended by 'Adnan Dawud Salman, deputy official in charge of the Foreign Relations Bureau at the Ba'th Party National Command. Li Shuzheng, CPC Central Committee alternate member and director of the Committee's International Liaison Department, and CPC delegation members attended for the PRC.

Discuss War with Ramadan

JN0506141788 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1140 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jun (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister and RCC member, met with Li Ximing, CPC Politburo member and Beijing Committee secretary, and his accompanying delegation here today.

Ramadan reviewed the Iranian aggression against Iraq and the Iranian rulers' insistence on war and their rejection of all international resolutions, including Security Council Resolution No 598, stressing that Iraq under President Saddam Husayn will achieve peace through determination and arms. He also pointed to Iraq's response to international peace efforts and its approval of international resolutions to bring about a comprehensive and just peace.

Li Ximing said that Resolution No 598 represents the international will and consensus. He added that the clauses of this resolution constitute basic principles for bringing about a just and comprehensive peace, and called for serious efforts to implement it.

During the meeting, attended by director of the Foreign Relations Bureau of the Ba'th Party National Command, the two sides discussed the growing relations between the Ba'th party and the Communist Party of China. They also stressed desire to further promote these relations.

Hold Talks with President

JN0506165688 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] President Saddam Husayn has received Comrade Li Ximing, CPC Politburo member and Beijing committee secretary, and his accompanying delegation. Comrade Li Ximing conveyed a message to the president from the PRC leadership dealing with relations between the CPC and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party as well as ways to promote relations between the two friendly peoples and countries.

The talks centered on relations and historic ties between the Arab nation and China and their positive aspects throughout history, a fact that should prompt both sides to preserve and promote these aspects. The talks also dealt with the situation in the region, the continuation of war between Iraq and Iran, and the need to achieve peace in accordance with the binding Resolution No 598 that should be implemented in good will and in the proper sequence of its provisions. The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the director of the Foreign Relations Bureau of the Ba'th Party; and the PRC ambassador in Baghdad.

Review Relations with 'Aziz

JN0506204388 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Li Ximing, CPC Politburo member and Beijing Committee secretary, and his delegation, today.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed party and official relations between the two countries, developments in the Iranian war against Iraq, and Iraqi Forces' victories in Al-Faw and Al-Shalamjah [Shalamcheh].

Attending the meeting were 'Adnan Dawud Salman, deputy official in charge of the foreign relations office at the Ba'th Party National Command; and the office director.

Meet PNPF Official

JN0606155488 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Text] Comrade Hasan 'Ali, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command and secretary general of the Progressive National and Patriotic Front [PNPF], today received separately Li Ximing, CPC Politburo member; and Azhar Ajhar Fahd' al-Udwan, head of the Union of Kuwaiti banks.

The PNPF secretary general reviewed the democratic experience of the 17-30 July revolution and the PNPF'S role and tasks in strengthening reconstruction, development, and the defense of the homeland against criminal Iranian aggression. During the meetings, relations of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the two countries were discussed.

PRC Economic Delegation Discusses Cooperation

Meets Agriculture Minister

JN0406152688 Baghdad INA in English 1500 GMT 4 Jun 88

[Text] Baghdad, June 4, INA—Iraqi Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation Mr Karim Husayn Rida met here today with Vice Minister of Construction Mr Ye Rutang and his accompanying delegation.

During the meeting relations of cooperation between the two countries in agriculture and irrigation as well as means of developing them to serve mutual interests were discussed.

Signs Cooperation Minutes

JN0506145988 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1310 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jun (INA)—Iraq and the PRC signed joint minutes for economic and technical cooperation today during the 5th session of the joint committee. The minutes, which were signed for Iraq by the acting trade minister and for the PRC side by Ye Rutang, PRC's vice minister of construction, will facilitate and increase trade exchange and expand spheres of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the two countries. In mutual speeches, the two sides stressed their desire to promote friendship and cooperation in the interest of the two peoples.

Leaves for Kuwait

JN0506172888 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jun (INA)—The PRC economic delegation led by Ye Rutang, PRC vice minister of construction, left Baghdad today for Kuwait after leading his country's delegation to the meetings of the Iraqi-PRC joint committee for economic and technical cooperation, which concluded in Baghdad today.

During its meetings, the committee discussed means to promote economic and technical cooperation and the exchange of trade and economic commodities between the two friendly countries.

Communique No 3,206 Details 6-7 Jun Combat

JN0706171688 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1605 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Communique No 3,206 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 7 June]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our troops' activities for last night and today were as follows:

1. Our units in the I Army Corps northern sector engaged enemy positions and destroyed eight positions of various types and one 130-MM gun. They also blew up seven ammunition dumps and killed one scoundrel.

2. Four enemy soldiers were killed in the I Special Army Corps sector—the Allahu Akbar Forces. Also, four infantry positions and two observation posts were destroyed, one vehicle was burned, and one enemy soldier was killed in the II Army Corps central sector.

3. One single-barreled machinegun was destroyed in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah. Furthermore, one enemy soldier was killed and five infantry positions were destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Masyan.

4. Two scoundrels were killed, one machinegun position was destroyed, and one ammunition dump was blown up in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris. One shovel [preceding word in English] was burned and one vehicle and one gun emplacement were destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 7 June 1988

Prime Minister's Office Rejects 'Awwad's Release
TA0706134588 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1330 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] The prime minister's office has rejected a request to release Mubarak 'Awwad from prison until the date of his deportation from Israel. In a letter addressed to 'Awwad's lawyer it is stated that 'Awwad's release might cause real damage which will cause agitation and harm the public welfare.

Peres Expects More 'Militancy' From Arab Summit
TA0806050488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Peres says he expects a hardening in the Arab position and more militancy to result from the Arab summit in Algiers. Reporter Shlomo Berger asked Peres if he is concerned that the Jordanian option would be blocked at the summit.

[Begin recording] [Peres] No, sir, I think that what is needed is an Israeli option right now. We have to make up our minds and then to go and seek the participation of others.

[Berger] What do you expect from the summit?

[Peres] I think a hardening in their position and enriched militancy in their rhetoric. [end recording]

The Knesset yesterday evening voted in favor of Foreign Minister Peres' support for the U.S. peace initiative. However, only seven Knesset members were present for the vote. The motion, introduced by Labor's Micha Harish, passed by four votes to three. Those voting against were Charlie Biton and Tawfiq Tubi of the RAKAH Communist Party and 'Abd al-Wahad Darawshah who broke away from Labor earlier this year to set up a one-member Knesset faction.

Peres Remarks on Al-Birah Incident, Shultz Visit
TA0706132888 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, today described this morning's attempted assassination of the Al-Birah mayor as extremely serious:

[Begin Peres recording] It is inconceivable for every attempt to search for a settlement to end with attacks against individuals. People who use violence and who believe that everything can be solved by violence will harm only themselves. So far, violence has hurt those who use it as much as its victims. We will naturally use all the means at our disposal to prevent it and to punish the guilty party. [end recording]

Our correspondent Ya'el Almog, who heard Mr Peres, also reports that Minister Peres discussed the visit of Secretary Shultz to our region. Peres said that Shultz will pursue his efforts, because otherwise he would cause great damage to our region and to the peace process.

Sharon, U.S. Trade Official Have 'Sharp Exchange'
TA0706134788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] There was a sharp exchange today between Michael Smith, U.S. deputy trade representative, and Ari'el Sharon, minister of industry and trade, following Minister Sharon's response to Washington's charges that Israel is violating the regulation on balanced free trade.

Our correspondent Menahem Friedman reports that Sharon's office received the impression that the United States is coming around to accepting the Israeli proposal to gradually abolish discriminatory taxes on imports from the United States, especially on textiles.

Shomron: 'Nothing To Hide' on Human Rights Issue
TA0806072788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] The damage to Israel building up in the United States may affect U.S. Congress decisions on foreign aid to Israel in the future. This was said today by Richard Schifter, the assistant U.S. secretary of state for human rights and humanitarian affairs, in a meeting at the chief of staff's office. Ambassador Thomas Pickering, the IDF military judge advocate, and a representative of the IDF spokesman also attended the meeting. Our army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe has the details:

The U.S. Administration is also under pressure, Richard Schifter, the assistant secretary for human rights and humanitarian affairs, and U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering explained at a meeting in the chief of staff's office today. Schifter stressed the need for a rapid response to investigations into complaints about irregular conduct by IDF soldiers. I came here, he stressed, to receive accurate information and to distinguish between rumors which are spread in the media sometimes and actual cases of irregularities and the manner in which they are handled.

Cooperation between Israel and the United States in relaying information should be improved. The lack of response and disinformation, against the background of the report on human rights to be issued in February 1989, increase the cumulative damage to Israel, and it is also feared that this may in the future affect Congress' decisions on foreign aid to Israel. The American stressed that the United States also has a problem. There are several months before the report is released, Schifter emphasized, and action should be taken to reduce the cumulative damages.

Colonel Ra'anan Gissin, the assistant IDF spokesman for foreign communications, said at the end of the meeting that all defense establishment leaders expressed unequivocal willingness to fully cooperate on the issue of relaying reliable information, as well as willingness to listen to the U.S. side. The chief of staff emphasized that Israel has nothing to hide. We are prepared to do everything, he said. Lieutenant General Dan Shomron added that he and senior officers brief commanders, including those in the field, on everything concerning following procedures.

Chief Intelligence Officer on Deterrence, Syria
TA0606160288 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Text] Brigadier General Giyora Zore'a, chief officer in the Intelligence Corps, says that Israel's deterrent capability today is better than during the Yom Kippur War, and the chances for a surprise are smaller. At the same time, he noted that deterrence is not a matter that can be taken for granted since the Middle East is not a stable region. Changes can occur within days and even hours. We do everything we can so as not to be surprised, the chief Intelligence Corps officer said in a talk with military correspondents on the occasion of Intelligence Corps Day marked today. He noted that the Syrians still intend to reach strategic parity with Israel, but have not done so due to economic difficulties.

Group Threatens To Poison Fruit Exports to Europe
AU0706134588 Paris AFP in English 1342 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Paris, June 7 (AFP)—An anti-Israeli organisation threatened Tuesday to poison fruit exported by Israel to France, Belgium and the Netherlands.

The previously unknown organisation, which calls itself "Wajib al-Mu'minin" (Duty of the Faithful), said it had planted the poisoned fruit in a locker at a Paris railway station.

The fruit was traced Tuesday by French police, but no results from laboratory tests were immmediately available.

The communique, written in approximate English and received by AFP and another news agency, warned that "now everybody who buy some fruits or other foods from Israel risk to die poisoned, and this like a just sentence for passive accomplices of Zionists."

"Next time," the communique added, "poisoned fruits will be in supermarket in France, Belgium and Holland." [passage omitted]

Renewal of Economic Agreement With RSA Noted
TA0706093088 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 7 Jun 88 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] Israel and the Republic of South Africa have decided to renew the economic cooperation agreement which will expire in a few months. DAVAR has learned that a senior Treasury official is to leave for Pretoria to conduct talks on this subject, and work out the details of the new agreement.

This will be the first renewal of an agreement between the two countries since the Israeli Government decided to impose sanctions and restrict contacts with the RSA about 1 year ago. When asked about this, Foreign Ministry spokesman Alon Li'el [name and title as published] explained that the cabinet decision stated explicitly that Israel will sign no new agreements, but that it will adhere to the existing ones.

It has been further learned that Yosi Beilin, the Foreign Ministry political director-general, had initially proposed that in order to demonstrate its determination to reduce its ties with the RSA racist regime, Israel refrain from renewing the economic agreement. His proposal was rejected by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Finance Minister Moshe Nisim.

It was agreed, however, that the negotiations for agreement renewal will take place in Pretoria, rather than Israel, so as to keep its very existence secret. The agreement grants Israel economic and commercial benefits, including fishing rights along South African shores, credit for coal purchases and an approval for the export of South African capital to Israel where it is to be invested in various ventures.

New Zealand Envoy Not To Present Credentials
TA0306144588 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 3 Jun 88 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] New Zealand refuses to submit the credentials of its new ambassador in Israel due to the situation in the territories. The New Zealand foreign affairs minister said, on behalf of the Labor government, that "due to Israel's conduct in the territories and its attitude toward the Palestinians, he has instructed his new ambassador not to submit his credentials to the president of the State of Israel."

Foreign Ministry officials in Jerusalem expressed regret that now of all times, when Israel's relations with Far East and Oceania countries are improving, the New Zealand Government has adopted such a position. New

Zealand is represented in Israel by a nonresident ambassador who is located in one of the European countries. Its previous ambassador recently concluded his tour of duty in Israel.

Netherland's Lubbers, Van den Broek To Visit

TA0306193188 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 3 Jun 88

[Text] The Netherlands Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers, who postponed a trip to Israel last month, will go ahead with the visit in July. A Netherlands Foreign Ministry spokesman said Lubbers and Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek would be in Jerusalem from July 17th to 19th. At the time of the postponement Lubbers had sharply criticized Israel's handling of the uprising in the territories. However, the spokesman said the reason for the delay was technical.

Egypt Interested in Buying Solar Power Plant

TA0606115988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Text] Egypt is interested in purchasing a solar power station developed by the Israeli Luz Company. Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal has reported that he recently received a request on the matter from the Egyptian president. Our correspondent Elihu Ben-On reports that this is a 30-megawatt power station that will be built near Cairo airport. The value of the deal, which will be financed jointly by the FRG and the United States, is estimated at approximately $90 million.

'No Unusual Activity' by IDF, SLA Near Yuhmur

TA0706124888 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Military sources told our correspondent that there is no unusual IDF and South Lebanese Army [SLA] activity in the area of Yuhmur and that there are no IDF and SLA forces in the village itself.

Expelled S. Lebanese Villagers Allowed To Return

TA0706162588 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Fifteen inhabitants of the village of Shab'a in southern Lebanon, who were expelled from the security zone 2 weeks ago, have been permitted to return to their homes. It was reported in Rashayya in the Al-Biqa' that the Shab'a residents were permitted to return to their village after the dispute between them and the South Lebanese Army [SLA] was resolved. The SLA had wanted to establish a civilian administration in the village.

Katyushas Fired at Security Zone; No Injuries

TA0806083488 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Yesterday afternoon 2 Katyushas were fired at the Christian village of Marj 'Uyun north of Metulla. Nobody was hurt and no damage was caused. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz reports that the missiles were fired from outside the security zone.

Rabin Meets With Gaza Islamic Fundamentalist

TA0706121088 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 7 Jun 88 p 2

[Report by military correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin recently met Ibrahim al-Yazuri, a member of the religious stream in Gaza. This was the first meeting of its kind between the minister and a representative of the religious fundamentalists. Al-Yazuri is a member of the Islamic association, the Islamic Mujama'a, which is not considered extremist and, unlike the Islamic Jihad, is not linked to the military wing of the PLO or radical countries such as Libya and Iran.

The Islamic Mujama'a is considered pro-Saudi Arabia although some of its members have been involved in security actions against Israel. Our correspondent has learned that during Rabin's talks with notables from the territories, the Palestinians raised the issue of municipal elections. Rabin's response was that there would be elections in the territories as part of the political process, but that it could not be done separately. [passage omitted]

'Terrorist' Drug Dealing Financing 'Uprising'

TA0606140388 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 6 Jun 88 p 6

[Report by Ran Gefen]

[Text] "The terrorist organizations have begun to sell hard drugs to Israel at reduced prices." This is the conclusion of a secret report prepared by police and Shin Bet elements. The report, which has been brought to the attention of a small number of people in the defense establishment and the police, indicates that the money gained from the sale of drugs serves to finance terror activities, including the intifadha [uprising].

The report relies on information the police obtained for the first time following the interrogation of drug dealers from the territories, particularly from Gaza. The interrogation indicated that some of the dealers are also involved in nationalist activities. The work of uncovering the link between the terrorist organizations and the drug dealers who belong to them was done mostly by the Shin Bet.

Additional intelligence information verifying the conclusions of the investigation was gathered after the seizure of documents that point to a link between the heads of the terrorist organizations and their members whose duty was to disseminate the drugs in Israel. The documents indicated that some of the drugs are produced in Lebanon, in areas under the control of the terrorist organizations. From there they are smuggled to Israel.

More on Unrest, Related Incidents in Territories

Al-Birah Mayor 'Stable'

TA0706120888 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1130 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] To prevent similar incidents from recurring, the Civilian Administration will draw the appropriate conclusions and learn the lessons from the attempted assassination of the Al-Birah mayor. These remarks were made a short while ago by Brigadier General Shay 'Erez, head of the Judaea and Samaria Civilian Administration. He noted that the Civilian Administration views the incident with great severity.

The condition of Al-Birah Mayor Hassan al-Tawil is stable. 'Erez said he would receive the best possible treatment. According to reports, Al-Tawil was recently transferred from the Ramallah hospital to one in Israel.

No Leads on Assailant

TA0706172988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Excerpts] The mayor of Al-Birah outside Jerusalem Hassan al-Tawil remains in critical condition in the government hospital in Ramallah after being knifed this morning by a lone assailant outside the Al-Birah town hall. Tawil, who was appointed mayor by Israel 2 years ago, was operated on at Ramallah Hospital where doctors say his condition is critical but stable. [passage omitted]

By tonight, security officials say they have no solid leads in the case. A curfew has been imposed on Al-Birah and an intensive investigation has begun.

Jericho Mayor Condemns Attack

TA0806055288 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0405 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Reports from the Ramallah hospital this morning say that Al-Birah Mayor Hasan al-Tawil is in stable condition. The area of Al-Birah where the assassination attempt was carried out yesterday remains under curfew. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports:

[Begin recording] [Passage omitted] The report on the stabbing of the Al-Birah mayor spread quickly throughout Judaea and Samaria. Nationalistic circles expressed their satisfaction over the assassination attempt, saying that the population must obey the leadership of the intifadha [uprising].

In contrast, Jericho Mayor Jamil Sabri Khalaf sharply condemned the attack on Al-Tawil. Jamil Sabri Khalaf says that this act is neither moral nor to the benefit of the Arab nation. Murders create greater confusion and fear among the residents. This is an inhuman act. A mayor is not a political figure, but one who serves the basic needs of the residents. I vehemently condemn the attack, the Jericho mayor said.

Members of the Civilian Administration met with senior personages and officials last night to deter them from resigning from their posts. The test will come this morning, when the municipalities open for business: Will the council members or officials of Al-Birah, Nabulus, Ramallah, and Hebron come to their offices, or will we witness a wave of resignations in the municipalities and among workers of the Civilian Administration as well?

In leaflets disseminated among administration workers, the leadership of the uprising repeatedly demands that they dissociate themselves from the administration and quit their jobs. We have not yet learned of resignations of public figures due to the assassination attempt, but there is no doubt that the leaders of the intifadha scored a noteworthy achievement on the day of the opening of the Algiers summit. The status of the appointed municipalities in Judaea and Samaria has been quite weak, however, and some of the staff has not functioned at all.

It has also been learned that yesterday the Civilian Administration extended the closure order on the institutes of higher education in the territories. The universities and colleges were closed about 5 months ago because of the riots. Since that time studies have resumed in the elementary and high schools, but it appears that the risk involved in the resumption of studies in the universities is too great. [end recording]

Gaza Youth Dies of Wounds

TA0806085188 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0830 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] A Gaza Strip youth died last night of wounds sustained at the Jabalyah refugee camp last Monday. The youth, Hasin Jum'ah Abu Jala, 20, was brought to the Al-Shifa' Hospital in Gaza with bruises over his entire body. He said that soldiers had beaten him. Upon a deterioration in his condition he was transferred to the Tel Hashomer Hospital where he died of his wounds last night. The IDF is investigating whether the bruises were caused by soldiers' blows or other circumstances, and an autopsy will be conducted to this end.

IDF Sees Change in 'Uprising'

TA0506113288 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 5 Jun 88 p 5

[Report by 'Imanu'el Rosen]

[Text] Defense establishment sources believe that a force made up of dozens of companies is a guarantee for maintaining relative quiet in Judaea and Samaria and the continued dying down of the uprising in the territories.

IDF sources said: "The intifadha [uprising] is changing. It is no longer made up of mass demonstrations which break out at the same time in dozens of different places. The leaders of the uprising have at this stage lost their ability to get the masses to demonstrate. There are several reasons: tiredness, a feeling of ineffectiveness, and the tremendous damage caused during the 6-month uprising."

Nevertheless, a senior officer in the territories said at the end of the week: "The intifadha is not over, and it will continue in some form or other until the root cause of its outbreak disappears. The solution is only political. We will still face many months, perhaps years, of uprising in some form."

The IDF forces in the territories are currently deployed according to an organized IDF work program. Most of the force is made up of soldiers in the reserves, who serve in the territories between 24 and 30 days.

Media Comments on Shultz Initiative, Latest Visit

Shultz 'Evading' 'Realities'

TA0706170788 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 6 Jun 88 p 1

[Editorial: "Which Political Rights?"]

[Text] Cairo, Amman, Tel Aviv, and Damascus—These are the traditional stations on the four visits of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

In his current visit, Shultz is not so much trying to obtain official and specific answers to his initiative, as attempting to prove that the U.S. peace plan is still alive and that its continuity has become one of the U.S. State Department's targets regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Land in return for peace, security for all, and a nonauthoritative international conference were expressions Shultz uttered in his various stations.

During his visit to Jordan he added a new expression pertaining to the "political" rights of Palestinians. All parties to the conflict are trying to interpret this expression according to their own aspirations and whims. Yet Shultz' rejection of the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, as well as his rejection of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the right to choose their representatives, clearly prove what the U.S. secretary of state means by the expression "political" rights of Palestinians.

Raising this expression without determining its dimensions and outlines leaves freedom of interpretation to those who use the term. On the basis of the Shultz plan, "political rights" are determined by rejection of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, which the U.S. Administration translates as the basis for establishing an independent Palestinian state. Consequently, according to Shultz, political rights mean autonomy or any other form of attachment or affiliation.

As is being observed, Shultz is raising the political rights of "Palestinians" and not the Palestinian people. This stems from rejection of the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights, of which political rights are one part, on the assumption that the Palestinians are treated as other nations of the region.

Apparently, evading the realities of the conflict, especially those relating to the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the right to choose their representatives, will lead to continued linguistic games as expressions of a political nature are voiced. Undoubtedly, as the region's peoples realize the equation of the conflict, it will become useless to continue playing with political terms and expressions that delay the peace process in the region.

'Good Intentions' Risk War

TA0706140088 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 7 Jun 88 p 13

[Commentary by Dan Margalit: "Shultz Is Risking a Bad Scenario"]

[Text] Like any good actor, as Shultz consoled himself upon leaving the Middle East, Ronald Reagan might just come out with a surprise dramatic move toward the end of the play. The President too, like any good actor, knows that right after that the limelights go off and the stars walk backstage and out to the homeward bound bus. Nothing comes of it.

Because even a dramatic Reagan visit to the area—which could remind us of Richard Nixon's sojourn in an attempt to avoid the final stages of the Watergate affair in 1974—will not do the job. It will in no way resemble Jimmy Carter's visit, which came after intensive preparations at Camp David.

No changes will be made even in the U.S. stance, since both sides are sticking to their rejectionist positions. The PLO is determined to reject UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. Yitzhaq Shamir clings to rejecting any negotiations that might lead to a territorial compromise, and Husayn fears for his own hide. The only possible fruits of a Shultz visit, if any, could be a certain

strengthening of the less radical elements taking part in the Arab summit this week. This becomes negligible in the overall picture of the peace process.

Shultz is conducting his policy in a curious manner. In face-to-face talks he compliments his hosts. Shamir left the meetings smiling and pleased, feeling that an agreement had been reached. Later on, he found out that the secretary of state disapproves of his positions. Shamir's aides gently pointed out that fact to Ambassador Pickering. Nothing had changed.

What Shultz does not seem to understand is that his good intentions might pave the road to the hellish nightmare of war. His multiple pilgrimages to the Middle East work in two contradictory directions that do not help peace in the area: Each time he comes to the area he raises hopes that are bound to lead to disappointment, and each of the sides reaches the conclusion that there is no way but to toughen one's position. Shultz is thus exposed as a representative of a big, yet awkward superpower, one which is slow and uptight with nothing to offer and nothing with which to threaten. It has neither the carrot nor the stick.

This is good for Hafiz al-Asad. Damascus Radio criticized Washington. Shultz was made to look like a beggar at the doorstep who did not dare threaten even one Syrian interest in the United States. Thus, nothing good came out of his sojourn. It is also good for Yasir 'Arafat, since every such visit highlights King Husayn's weakness even further and boosts the PLO's prestige without pressuring the PLO with the most important demand and the only justification for this effort: Recognize Israel and the relevant UN resolutions! When both Shultz and Gorbachev urge the PLO to recognize Israel's legitimate rights and yet fail to get a response, when this call remains unheeded, it can only weaken the superpowers' chances of forcing 'Arafat into some future peace agreement.

It also strengthens Shamir, because the opportunities for snapshots with a smiling Shultz serve as a lubricant for the Likud election machine. The Israeli voter's worst fear, that the United States might abandon Israel, perishes and dissolves with every U.S. Air Force plane that lands. Shamir is okay. He does not give up anything and Shultz does not go out of his way to praise him. Both express adequate political neutrality.

Not that it is worth inviting a U.S. "reassessment" of its own Israeli policy, as Henry Kissinger once mistakenly put it. If he does that, Shultz would be making an irreparable mistake. A strong IDF is a precondition for any political process and is clearly a U.S. interest. A stable Israeli economy also fits these goals. Stressing that peace negotiations are just as essential to Israel as U.S. aid is, however, becomes an ineffectual argument both because Shultz is providing the Likud leader with a large degree of legitimacy before the elections, and because he appears to be gutless, in the Arabs' minds as well.

In his previous tour Shultz said that he would come to the Middle East flaunting the motto of "this is what you shall see and do." The sides would be forced to treat his plan as one entity, and be asked to accept it or reject it. The Arabs and the Likud ridiculed it. They treated it as a sticky mess capable of being dealt with only by totally emasculating it.

The growing understanding between Shultz and Shevardnadze seems to be giving hope to new possibilities. This is based on the assumption that the USSR is becoming more flexible, offering Israel a way to fair negotiations. Under these conditions there is only one chance for a real surprise, which is not a scene in a fictional play: the continuation of direct talks between the United States and the Soviet Union, which will increase pressure on the rejectionist Syria and PLO, and on the stubborn Likud, leaving room on the regional agenda for an invitation to an international conference.

Surprised? Think this is a drama? Could this be a surprising last-minute development in a Hollywood scene, as Reagan the actor so well understands it? Any good director would suggest a grand finale before the Reagan-Shultz duo disappears from the international arena: Shultz and Shevardnadze descending from the plane in which they shuttle throughout Middle East airports, their arms linked.

No other gimmick will constitute the kind of real surprise Shultz hinted at in his meeting 2 days ago with the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. Rather, it would be a continuation of the routine, the decline, and the despair. More important, it would provide indirect assistance to the Likud in its election campaign, and help the Arab rejectionists of peace in their summit.

Shultz Remarks 'New Language'

TA0706142288 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 6 Jun 88 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Do Shultz' Statements Signify a New U.S. Approach?"]

[Text] During his recent visit U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz was quoted as saying that a settlement in the region cannot be reached without addressing the legitimate "political" rights of the Palestinians. In Shultz' view there is ample room for Palestinians and Israelis to live side by side as neighbors in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and Israel. At the same time, Shultz did not forget to mention that continued Israeli occupation of Arab lands is a mere illusion.

Shultz himself uttered all these and other frank statements. Do they signify a positive change in the U.S. position regarding various aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict? Does this mean that the U.S. position is now characterized by a clearer vision and courage and is more far-sighted?

Shultz' acknowledgment that the Palestinian people's struggle is a national movement aimed at gaining control of the land can be regarded as a new language that has been long lacking in U.S. diplomacy. This acknowledgment by Shultz indicates a realism and objectivity in the U.S. view toward the crux of the conflict in the Middle East, which is the problem of the Palestinian people.

This U.S. language comes in the wake of the superpower summit in Moscow. Does this language in fact represent an acceleration of the peace process agreed upon in Moscow? Or is this U.S. perspective, with which we were unfamiliar in the past, proof that the U.S. Administration has absorbed the roots of the conflict?

We in the occupied territories hope that Shultz' statements are the beginning of a new and realistic U.S. approach, one that would prove the U.S. Administration's ability to free itself in order to move effectively and pursue the role of a successful mediator to solve the riddle of the Arab-Israeli conflict in a way that would bring about a just and comprehensive peace in the region, specially after the United States has failed in all its previous attempts to establish peace, due to its obvious bias toward Israel and because of its disregard for the major party in this conflict, namely the Palestinian people.

Although we want to be hopeful about the sincerity of the U.S. Administration's intentions, and though we hope that Shultz' statements are an expression of these intentions, we must still show extreme caution in dealing with them and not take them at face value, for fear that these statements were made to preempt any decision by the Arab summit that starts tomorrow in Algiers. We also hope that the aim of Shultz' statements is not to prevent a shift toward radicalism in the Arab position, and consequently the rejection of the Shultz initiative, particularly since this summit will be devoted to discussing the uprising in the occupied territories and ways of supporting it.

Initiative To Remain in 'Limbo'

TA0306144888 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 3 Jun 88 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "The New Round"]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is beginning his 4th trip to the region. He is scheduled to arrive in Cairo today within the framework of a visit that will also include Jordan, Syria, and Israel.

In an interview with a U.S. television network, Shultz declared that it is extremely difficult to work out an Arab-Israeli settlement, noting that such a settlement can only be reached through direct negotiations between Israel and its neighbors.

The the U.S. secretary of state's latest visit comes in the wake of the Moscow summit between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. The final communique of this summit made absolutely no mention of the Arab-Israeli conflict, proving that the two countries have deep differences over this issue.

Because of its strategic partnership with Israel, the U.S. Administration persisted in rejecting the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, as well as the right to choose their representatives. In this way it affirmed its commitment to the Shultz initiative as it stands, with no room for change. Meanwhile Israel has failed to determine its stance toward this initiative, with the Likud rejecting the principle of land in return for peace and refusing to discuss the final status of the Arab territories occupied by Israel in 1967.

Disavowal of the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights will definitely lead to the inevitable rejection of the Shultz initiative by the Arab parties to the conflict. Egypt, Syria, and Jordan are committed to convening an international conference with the participation of all parties, including the PLO, and are urging that the Palestinian people's right to self-determination be taken into consideration.

During his new trip Shultz will apparently not receive specific yes or no answers from Israel and the Arab states to whom the initiative was presented, because the parties to the conflict are playing a public relations game and do not want the blame for rejecting the initiative to fall on them. The absence of specific answers will not necessarily increase the Shultz initiative's chances for success or keep it alive. It will remain in limbo, awaiting the results of the U.S. presidential elections and the Israeli Knesset elections. Thus Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, who, since Shultz' initiative was presented, has announced that the present time is not appropriate for a peace process, will have succeeded in his scheme.

Regardless of the outcome of the U.S. Secretary of State's visit, the Arab leaders must work with all their might to consolidate a unified Arab strategy based on the Palestinian people's national rights, as this is the only practical response to attempts to perpetuate a policy of delay and procrastination.

End to U.S. Interference, Support for Likud Urged

TA0606142688 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 6 Jun 88 p 9

[Commentary by Hagay Eshed: The U.S. Must Stop Interfering"]

[Text] The U.S. Administration must once and for all stop interfering in Israel's internal affairs, especially in our election campaign. The time has come for members of the administration to stop supporting the Likud in its election campaign against the Labor Party and its leader,

Shim'on Peres. The time has come for the U.S. Administration to stop assisting the Likud in harming the advancement of peace, which is what the United States is doing constantly—in direct contrast to what it intends to do and says it is doing.

The United States interferes in Israel's internal affairs—against Israel's interests, against the interests of the Labor Party, and to the detriment of peace and U.S. interests in the region and the world. God only knows why the United States, which is full of good intentions, does this to itself and us. It is difficult to understand why the United States, which is so sophisticated and calculating, does not understand that noninvolvement in peace is like getting involved in an effort to prevent peace, and that avoiding the truth when you are called as a witness is like giving testimony to benefit those who spread lies and untruths.

This is constantly the U.S. stand, and this is the last opportunity to put a stop to it. The United States must finally start to tell the truth about itself and its policy, to make known all that is included in its peace plan, and all that is not. That is what it is being asked to do: to tell the truth now, not after the Israeli elections. The election results will to a large extent be decided by U.S. silence and refusal to tell the truth, which is the same as becoming involved in the election campaign to the benefit of the liars.

Israel should say clearly and repeatedly until it becomes clear to everyone what the U.S. peace plan is. It must be clear to everyone that Resolution 242 must be implemented on all fronts—including the Jordanian-Palestinian one—so that the meaning of this resolution is "territories for peace." Or perhaps it would be better to use Gorbachev's definition: "territories for peace and security."

This is a very important assertion. Self-determination, legitimate rights, and representation for the Palestinian people are one side of the coin. The other side is: Israel's security needs, and not only recognition of its existence and right to exist. One side does not exist without the other. This is a very important USSR assertion, which was heard from Gorbachev himself after the summit talks.

Only Yitzhaq Shamir has not heard it yet. He continues not to hear and to remain ignorant of what he does not want to hear and know about. We heard from Gorbachev—directly and by insinuation—that the PLO cannot have the exclusive right to decide the fate of the Palestinian people, peace, and Israel's security. We heard and understood that representation of and self-determination for the Palestinian people must be decided jointly by the Palestinians and the Arab countries. At least two of them—Syria and Egypt—were directly mentioned as partners in making this decision. Whatever is agreed between these two will also be acceptable to Jordan, which will implement it.

The Soviet declaration is understandable. The Arab countries have been drawn into an involvement in the Arab-Israeli conflict since the 1930's, and since then a lot of blood has been shed by them and by Israel. The United States and the USSR have invested huge sums in this conflict. The USSR invested mainly in weapons and in helping the Arab war effort against Israel, while the United States invested chiefly in aid for peace, although it also provided military equipment to the "moderate" Arab countries (including Saudi Arabia, which opened the Arab door to PRC military aid). The superpowers are sick of the Israeli-Arab conflict and the inherent danger of war. The USSR has a national and global list of priorities, led by peace and development requirements. The best deterrent against another war in the region could be a declaration that the USSR will avoid providing aid for one.

This is the real situation of the changing world in which we live and which the United States and the USSR lead. This is the background to the U.S. peace plan and the U.S. agreement to have the USSR join in achieving peace in the Middle East through the international peace conference, which is merely a code word for USSR participation in its implementation. The time has come for the Americans to tell the truth about the changing world and about Israel's needs and place in it. Only Yitzhaq Shamir refuses to recognize the changes taking place in our world. The United States allows him to deny the truth and avoids telling him and all of us plainly and clearly that if he and his colleagues in the nationalist camp continue saying no, they will harm Israel and the framework of Israeli-U.S. relations in the short and long term. This is the truth. This is the U.S. position.

Why does the United States not say so? Why does it not speak in a clear and easily understood voice that can be understood by Yitzhaq Shamir and all of the Israeli people? Why does it permit Yitzhaq Shamir and the Likud to appear as though they do not understand what the Americans are saying, and as though the Labor Party is leading the nation astray when it tells the truth about the U.S. position and Israel's needs, as seen by the United States as well. Why does George Shultz, who is full of good intentions, not say that whoever denies this position, which is currently the coordinated U.S.-USSR position, brings harm to Israel itself in the eyes of the United States?

The United States continues to provide the Likud and Yitzhaq Shamir with legitimacy and assists him in torpedoing the peace plan, which it is trying to advance. It continues to be involved in the Israeli election campaign to the benefit of the Likud. The time has come for it to understand that it is harming itself, as well as us, and to stop doing it.

Poll Indicates Increase in Left-Wing Support

TA0306164288 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 3 Jun 88 p 3

[Text] A slight rise in the support of the left-wing bloc and a decline in support for the right-wing bloc—these

are some of the findings of a poll conducted between Wednesday and Thursday this week by the Teleseqer Institute at the request of HADASHOT. This was determined following a comparison between the findings of the current poll and those of previous polls conducted in January and March, around the time of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's visit to the United States.

The leftist bloc, which includes the Alignment, MAPAM, the Citizens Rights Movement, and the Center Party, received 53 Knesset seats according to the poll conducted in January. In March the number of seats decreased to 50, but it has now again risen to 53. According to the poll the number of seats has risen due to increased support for the Alignment. The Alignment received 46 seats in the current poll compared with 41 in March.

In the first two polls support for the rightist bloc, which includes the Likud, Tehiya, and Tzomet, rose from 44 seats in January to 51 in March. The present poll shows, however, that the number of seats has decreased to only 49. Support declined especially for the Likud which gained only 42 seats this time, compared with the 44 it received in March. Support for the Likud rose in the March poll compared with the January one when the Likud gained only 38 seats.

Support for the religious bloc, which includes the National Religious Party, SHAS, [Torah Observing Sephardims] and Agudat Yisra'el, remained stable in the last two polls: 11 seats. In the March poll, however, this bloc received two seats less than in the January poll.

The condition of HADASH [Democratic Movement for Peace and Equality] remained stable in all polls: 6 seats. In contrast, support for the Kakh Party is on the decline: In January this party gained four seats, in March two, and in the present poll one or even less than one seat.

The three polls encompassed a representative sample of between 500 to 1,000 men and women, 18 years old and up, interviewed on the telephone nationwide.

Poll Gauges Views on Arabs, Territories, PLO

TA3005100688 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 30 May 88 p A9

[Report by Nurit Dovrat]

[Text] Some 69 percent of Tehiya voters, compared with 60 percent of Kakh supporters, believe Israel is too democratic. Some 45 percent of the entire population believe Israel is "too democratic." These are the findings included in a research paper by Dr Yo'av Peled, a social science professor at Tel Aviv University.

As to the question of whether Israeli Arabs should be transferred to Arab countries, 41 percent of the entire population said "they definitely agree." Some 42 percent of Tehiya voters responded in the affirmative to this question (an interesting rate compared to the overall population), while 87 percent of Kakh voters favored the suggestion.

As for granting Arab citizens of Israel equal rights, 80 percent of Kakh sympathizers, 73 percent of Tehiya voters, and 53 percent of the general population voted against it.

Dr Yo'av Peled also examined the effect of the incidents in the territories on the public. He found out that 60 percent of the interviewees said the intifadha [uprising] did not affect them, 24 percent said they turned more hawkish, and 18 percent said they became more dovish.

Holding talks with the PLO provided it recognizes Israel and renounces terrorism was supported by 31.5 percent of Kakh voters, 30 percent of Tehiya voters, and 50 percent of the overall population.

Arab Publications Inside, Outside Green Line

[Editorial Report] Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew on 27 May on page 27 publishes a table by Fayiz 'Abbas on Arabic-language publications both inside and outside the Green Line, according to the following breakdown: name of newspaper, type, day, editor, publisher, printed in, distributed in, readership, price.

AL-ITTIHAD	daily	—	MKs Tawfiq Tubi, Emil Habibi	RAKAH	Haifa	Green Line	8,000 subscribers	1 shekel
AL-SINARA	weekly	Friday	Wida, Lutfi Mash'ur	Wida, Lutfi Mash'ur	Nazareth	Green Line, territories	60,000	free
JAFRA	weekly	Saturday	Zahir Hajj	Zahir Hajj	E. Jerusalem	Green Line	10,000 issues	free
KUL AL-'ARAB	weekly	Friday	Layla Hasdiyah Al-Furaydis	Ari'eli Advertising	Nazareth	Green Line	unknown	free
AL-ANWAR	weekly	Thursday	Salman al-Tawil, Nayif Khuri	Market Card Company	Haifa	Green Line	15,000	free
VENUS	weekly	Thursday	Habib Masalima	Habib Masalima	Nazareth	Green Line	unknown	free
NARA AL-JABAL	weekly	Friday	Shafiq Mansur	—	Haifa, Galilee, the Karmel	Druze villages	unknown	free

AL-JAWAL	weekly	Friday	Jamal 'Abd al-Rahim	Jamal 'Abd al-Rahim	Al-Taiyiba	the Triangle	unknown	free
AL-'ARABI	weekly	Friday	Abu Rahman 'Akko	Abu Rahman	Haifa	Arab villages	unknown	free
AL-RAYA	weekly	Friday	Raja' Akbariyah	Sons of the Village Movement	Nazareth	Arab sector	5,000 copies	70 agorot
AL-WATAN	weekly	Friday	Progressive List for Peace activists	PLP	Nazareth	Green Line	10,000 issues	free
AL-JUDUR	biweekly	—	Muntasiri Hajj Yahya	Muntasiri Hajj Yahya	Al-Taiyiba	the Triangle	unknown	free
AL-JADID	literary monthly	—	Salam Jubran	RAKAH	Nazareth	Green Line	subscribers only	—
AL-MUJATAMA'	literary-social monthly	—	Michel Haddad (Nazareth)	Michel Haddad	Green Line	very limited	free	
AL-HAYAH	health affairs monthly	—	doctors and social workers	—	Haifa	—	subscribers only	30 shekels/6-mon
ABIR	women's monthly	—	'Atallah Najr 'Arrabah	'Atallah Najr	Jerusalem	Green Line, territories	thousands	6 shekels
AL-RA'D	youth magazine	—	'Azmi Bashhsharat	RAKAH	Haifa	—	unknown	1.5 shekels
AL-USBU' AL-RIYADI	sports weekly	Sunday	As'ad Talhami (Shefar'am)	RAKAH	Haifa	Green Line, territories	sold with AL-ITTIHAD	—
AL-RIYADI AL-'ARABI	sports weekly	Muhammad Khalil Al-Rayinah	independent	Nazareth	Arab villages	unknown	free	

King Husayn on Arab Summit, Peace Efforts

JN0706184288 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has received His Highness Thuwayni ibn Shihab, Sultan Qabus' personal representative and head of the Omani delegation to the conference. After the meeting, his majesty the king answered questions on Omani television.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Your Majesty, what do you expect from the extraordinary Arab summit in Algiers? Do you think that the resolutions to be adopted by this summit will contain something new concerning the Palestinian question compared with those adopted by the Amman summit?

[King Husayn] I hope the summit will succeed. This is the demand of all the Arabs in the great homeland, especially at this stage where there is an uprising, indeed, a Palestinian revolution on the Palestinian soil against the occupation. The Palestinian people in the occupied territories, through their uprising, are calling upon us all to do whatever we can so that their move can produce results; namely, removal of the occupation and restoration of right.

[Unidentified reporter] Your Majesty, everybody is talking about support for the Palestinian uprising. What form should this support take?

[King Husayn] This is what we are going to discuss. We are going to present certain views and proposals, so that we move together with our brothers the Palestinian people and their sole legitimate representative and with the rest of our Arab brothers on the course they choose.

[Unidentified reporter] Do the recent Reagan-Gorbachev summit and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' visit to the region indicate there is an imminent solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict?

[King Husayn] I think the situation is now clear. As we have been informed, there is agreement on the need to convene the international conference. [end recording]

Steadfastness Committee Official on Program

JN0606083988 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 6 Jun 88 p 22

[Text] Amman, AL-DUSTUR—Dr Fu'ad Bsaysu, secretary general of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee for supporting steadfastness, has said he expects that all Arab states participating in the extraordinary Arab summit in Algiers will respond to the program to support the uprising in the occupied territory and to take practical steps that will give the Palestinian steadfastness a new spirit of pan-Arab integration.

In answer to a question by AL-DUSTUR, Dr Bsaysu said that in its meeting last March, the committee allocated $23 million to support different activities and institutions in the occupied territory which were decided on in light of the requirements of the blessed Palestinian uprising.

Dr Bsaysu added that the system for implementing the joint committee's decision is well controlled. Financing is given regularly despite the circumstances of the occupation and its oppressive measures. The implementation process corresponds to the goals and objectives on which decisions were made.

Regarding implementation of the committee's program, he said that part of the program is still awaiting more financial transfers from fraternal Arab states. He pointed out that Saudi Arabia is the only Arab state that has continued to pay its obligations to the committee since 1978.

1 Million Dinars Raised for Occupied Territories

JN0706130088 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 7 Jun 88 pp 20, 16

[Excerpts] Amman—SAWT AL-SHA'B—Dr Mamduh al-'Abbadi, secretary general of the popular committee for supporting the kinfolk's uprising in the occupied territories, said that the committee has thus far managed to raise 1 million dinars in cash donations in support of the kinfolk's steadfastness in face of the Zionist war machine. Dr al-'Abbadi thanked all the banks, companies, establishments, and individuals that extended financial support. He stressed the importance of this suppoprt for the continuation and escalation of the valiant uprising throughout the occupied territories. [passage omitted]

Dr Al-'Abbadi told SAWT AL-SHA'B that the committee managed to send large sums of money into the occupied territories and that these were distributed among families of the martyrs, detainees, and wounded, as well as medical, social, and cultural establishments. [passage omitted]

He indicated that the committee faces technical difficulties in sending large sums of money into the West Bank and Gaza Strip after the occupation authorities' recent decision not to allow the entry of more than 400 dinars per person. To facilitate the dispensation and sending of aid into the occupied territories, the committee urges martyrs' families to report to its headquarters at the Doctors Union in Amman where they can collect their allocations, providing they show a legal death certificate in the name of the martyr.

Hostages Said Moved to Iran Embassy, Al-Biqa'

PM0706160188 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 7 Jun 88 pp 1,2

[Unattributed report: "Six Hostages Moved From Suburb To Iranian Embassy and Ba'labakk"]

[Text] London, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Information from Lebanese and Western organizations has indicated that six of the Western hostages in Lebanon have been moved outside the southern suburb of Beirut, where Syrian forces were deployed after the pro-Iranian Hizballah had gained control following 3 weeks of fierce battles against the pro-Damascus Amal Movement.

The information indicates that Hizballah succeeded in moving the six hostages out of the suburb before the Syrian deployment, namely via a camouflaged convoy comprising six cars, and that the Iranian Embassy in Beirut facilitated the convoy's movement. The information also indicates that two of the hostages were transferred to the Iranian Embassy in West Beirut, where they are considered to be safe, not only because of the embassy's diplomatic immunity, but because the military forces in the area are not likely to storm it to free them.

The information adds that the other four hostages have been transferred to Al-Biqa', specifically to the suburbs of Ba'labakk, where Hizballah maintains a strong presence despite the fact that it is situated in an area where the Syrian forces are densely deployed. These are the four American professors at Beirut University, one of whom is of Indian origin. The information indicates that it is likely that this has been done in preparation for their release within the next few weeks before the Lebanese presidential elections, which are expected to be held between 23 July and 23 September.

The information ruled out that the transfer of the hostages could have been carried out without the knowledge of the Syrian forces deployed along the road leading to Ba'labakk. The information indicated that it is likely that the matter is part of the formula reached which led to the peaceful deployment of the Syrian forces in the southern suburb, with assurances not to strike at Hizballah, and a pledge not to try to free the hostages by force.

Diplomatic sources have said that if such information is true, this will help explain the optimism expressed by Ambassador Vernon Walters, U.S. representative to the United Nations, after his recent visit to Damascus and his meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The sources believe that Iran may be interested in appeasing Syria for being the only Arab country allied with Tehran.

But the sources believe that Iran, which has suffered more than one setback over recent weeks in its war with Iraq, is now in a stage of military preparations and was probably seeking to release some of the hostages in return for some types of weapons and spare parts. The sources said that the Syrian forces would not have spread into the suburb if they were not confident that they would succeed in liberating a number of the hostages or, at least, if they did not receive assurances of that kind.

The sources added that Syria's success in guaranteeing the release of a number of U.S. hostages would improve its image and strengthen its position in the present dialogue between Washington and Damascus, which numerous quarters think likely from now on, to broach the details of the Lebanese presidential elections. The sources believe that Washington could respond to Damascus' initiatives on the hostage problem by exerting pressure on the Lebanese parties hostile to Syria in the eastern area [of Beirut], specifically the Lebanese Forces led by Samir Ja'ja'.

Lebanese Forces Praise Shultz Stand on Elections

NC0706172788 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Dr Samir Ja'ja' chaired a meeting of the Lebanese Forces Command Council this afternoon. During the meeting, the Council reviewed the stages reached by U.S. efforts, which are aimed at finding a solution to the Lebanese crisis. The Council also discussed Washington's recent stand, which was expressed by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz during his visit to Damascus.

In this connection, the Lebanese Forces declare the following:

1. The Lebanese Forces consider the U.S. secretary's recent statement in the Syrian capital a positive development with regard to the U.S. stand on the Lebanese crisis. This statement expresses respect for the Lebanese people's desire to ensure that any political reform of the Lebanese system remains an internal matter. Consequently, the statement expresses Washington's desire to prevent the forcible or foreign imposition of any plan for internal political reform on any party.

2. The Lebanese Forces highly praise the clear U.S. insistence that the presidential elections be held without conditions and that these elections not be linked to political reform, administrative Beirut, or similar ideas which are meant to obstruct the presidential elections.

The Lebanese Forces believe that the U.S. stand expresses a firm and consistent international and U.S. decision to uphold Lebanon's international legitimacy and to hold presidential elections in isolation from all circumstances, conditions, and developments.

3. After studying the position of U.S. Secretary of State Shultz, the Lebanese Forces stress that the essence of their existence is to work constantly to maintain the free Lebanese entity through the continuation of a free, legal government in Lebanon. On this basis, the Lebanese Forces will not be an obstacle to the holding of free and democratic presidential elections. On the contrary, the

Lebanese Forces will exert their utmost efforts and offer all facilities so that the presidential elections may be held in accordance with regulations and constitutional deadlines. The Lebanese Forces will be a positive factor in the presidential election process and in the election of a new Lebanese president.

Further Reportage on Al-Awza'i Explosion

Birri Accuses Lebanese Forces

NC0706182488 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Amal Movement leader Minister Nabih Birri has condemned the crime which was committed in the Al-Awza'i area. He said: The Israeli instruments in Lebanon committed this abominable crime against our people in the Al-Awza'i area. This crime was perpetrated after the Lebanese Forces had publicly declared their intention to retaliate for the Al-Ashrafiyah explosion. This is not the first time that the Lebanese Forces have revealed their ugly face and hands, which are smeared with the blood of innocent Lebanese people.

The presence of the Syrian brothers was one of the targets of today's crime. This proves that the Lebanese Forces crime against the security of innocent people and national security is deep-rooted. The day will come when they will not escape the punishment of earth and heaven. Their crimes in East Beirut exceed those they have committed in West Beirut. Their hidden crimes are worse and more calamitous than the acts of kidnapping, killing, and torture.

Their criminal attempts extending from the South to Al-Awza'i reveal their true identity, which has no connection with Lebanon and its noble character.

Hizballah Official Killed

NC0706200888 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] According to security reports, the owner of the rigged car which exploded in the Al-Awza'i-Al-Maramil area today was Abu 'Ali 'Assaf, the Hizballah official in Al-Awza'i. He was killed in the explosion.

A state of high tension continues to prevail in the area following the clash between gunmen of the Al-'Assaf clan and internal security forces that took place after the explosion. Two gunmen were killed in that clash.

4 Dead; Over 40 Wounded

NC0806053488 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] The hands of viciousness perpetrated a heinous crime against innocent, defenseless citizens yesterday, blowing up a white Mercedes 200 in the Al-Awza'i area, which has left 4 people dead and well over 40 others wounded. In addition, seven shops were demolished and five cars burned in the blast.

The Mercedes, rigged with approximately 40 kg of explosives, was parked at the Al-Awza'i intersection in the Al-Maramil area, just a few meters from a checkpoint jointly manned by the Syrian forces and internal security personnel.

During the rescue operations, a clash took place between internal security personnel and passengers in a civilian car. One person was killed in the exchange of gunfire. However, the Syrian forces managed to contain the incident.

Quadripartite Group Agrees on Peace Plan

LD0606112388 Tehran IRNA in English 1112 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Text] Beirut, June 6, IRNA—A four member committee of representatives from the Islamic Republic of Iran, Syria and Hizballah and Amal announced new agreements for ending Amal-Hizballah clashes in the suburbs of Beirut Sunday.

The committee was set up upon the proposal of President Khamene'i and his Syrian counterpart to solve discords between Amal and Hizballah forces.

Syria's representative, Captain Ali Hamood [name as received] told IRNA that the committee has agreed on the establishment of four political bureaux for Amal and Hizballah in the suburbs of Beirut, education and scouts centers for each of the parties in assigned areas, and banning forced entry to houses and carrying of firearms in the city streets.

The committee is to study next steps in its Monday afternoon session.

Fatah Official Escapes Assassination Attempt

NC0706162488 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] According to a security report, Abu Yasir, chief Fatah military official in southern Lebanon, was the target of an assassination attempt yesterday as he was going to 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp [near Sidon]. One of his bodyguards was wounded.

Amal Releases Remaining Palestinian Detainees

NC0806112388 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] The Amal Movement released 13 Palestinian detainees at one of its centers in the South at 1000 today, in the presence of 'Atif 'Awn, official in charge of the Movement's organizational affairs in the South, and a Red Cross team.

'Awn has declared that this group represents the last batch of detainees held by Amal. He said that this step serves to implement Minister Nabih Birri's initiative and the pledges agreed upon during the meetings held at the home of Brother Mustafa Sa'd, which were aimed at ensuring the release of detainees and an end to the camps war.

'Awn went on to say that the Amal Movement is keen on closing the book on the camps events. He expressed the hope that the Palestinian factions will release the Movement's members and work seriously to open a new page of fraternal relations, which will restore confidence between the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

Resistance Group Fires Missiles into Israel
NC0706112588 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1045 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] The martyr Mustafa Harfush group early today bombarded the Israeli settlement of Goren, north of occupied Palestine, with two Grad missiles. The missiles scored direct hits. The enemy radio admitted the bombardment, but as usual denied that losses had been inflicted.

Release of 17 Shab'a Deportees Negotiated
NC0706133688 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] The 17 Shab'a deportees returned home at 1400 today. A delegation had gone earlier to the crossing point in Zumrayya, where it negotiated with Israeli intelligence officers and Lahd agents. The delegation reiterated its rejection of the establishment of a local administration in the town and demanded that the deportees not be harmed or subjected to interrogation. Agreement was reached providing for the return of the deportees.

Lahd Members Killed, Injured in Explosions
NC0706173788 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Resistance fighters detonated an explosive charge on the 'Aynata-Bayt Yahun Road in the South today as a Lahd patrol was passing. A vehicle was damaged in the blast and its personnel were either killed or wounded.

In a separate development, the resistance fighters detonated a similar device on the Yuhmur-Arnun Road this morning, injuring several Lahd militia members. Afterward, the occupation forces and Lahd militia units attacked Yuhmur. A battle ensued in which the resistance exchanged rocket and machinegun fire with the attackers.

Israeli, Lahd Casualties in Clash With Amal
NC0706183888 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] The Lebanese Resistance Battalions-Amal, has announced that one of its groups laid an ambush on the Buslayya town road at 0800 this morning. A 20-minute clash ensued between the group and a joint patrol of the occupation forces and agent Lahd militia, which was using the road. The occupation forces and agents suffered five casualties. Following this operation, tanks of the enemy forces raked the outskirts of Jba' town.

Israelis Advancing on Yuhmur; 'Fierce Battles'
NC0706142888 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] According to the latest reports from Al-'Urqub District, the Israeli occupation forces are advancing toward the town of Yuhmur after resistance men and the occupation forces had engaged in fierce battles on the approaches to the town and some of its quarters. Tanks and helicopters belonging to the enemy were involved in the fighting.

Meanwhile, we have also been informed that a joint Israeli-Lahd militia force has carried out a search operation in all of the villages of Al-'Urqub, during which some houses were searched and citizens were interrogated. During the operation, the occupation forces found five explosive devices along a road which is used by the Lahd militia stationed in Al-Shumariyah. A spokesman for the agents said that the explosive devices were defused.

Siege Tightened
NC0806062588 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] According to reports from the South, Israeli enemy forces continue to tighten their siege of Yuhmur. The Israeli forces have blocked all entrances to the town, preventing the town's inhabitants from leaving or entering. The Israeli forces also prevented a Red Cross team from entering the town last night.

In Beirut, meanwhile, inhabitants of Yuhmur issued a statement urging political and spiritual leaders to immediately intercede and lift the siege.

Military Reportedly To Receive SS-23 Missiles

NC0806080188 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0700 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 8 Jun (MENA)—The Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-ITTIHAD reports today that a ranking Soviet military delegation led by General Pikalov, chief of the chemical troops of the Special Troops Department in the Soviet Ministry of Defense, recently made an undeclared visit to Syria.

Western military sources have expressed conviction that the Soviet delegation inspected Syrian preparations that have been going on for a while with a view to supplying Syrian forces with "Soviet 500-km range surface-to-surface SS-23 Spider missiles."

Radio Views Shultz Remarks on Palestinian State

JN0506125888 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Station comentary]

[Text] Before arriving in the Zionist entity today, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz tried to belittle the importance and effectiveness of the popular uprising in the occupied territory when he said that the uprising did not have any practical results and that such results would not be achieved except through direct negotiations, as he put it. Shultz went a bit further when he reiterated his rejection of an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, alleging that he does not understand the practical basis of such a state.

Thus, all of Shultz' statements on the alleged U.S. peace efforts in the region have disappeared into thin air. This again proves that the United States follows only the Israeli policy in the Middle East—a policy that defends the Zionist entity's aggressive, expansionist policy and proposes political plans to legitimize Israeli occupation.

Shultz says he does not understand the practical basis for establishing an independent Palestinian state. Does this mean that we should accept the alternative he is presenting; namely, a limited Palestinian autonomy under the umbrella of Zionist occupation? The essence of the problem with Shultz is that he refuses to recognize the Palestinian people's right of self-determination, implement international resolutions to liberate all of the occupied Arab territories, or convene an international conference with wide powers to implement international resolutions. This U.S stand is not new. It is an indulgence in hostility to the Arabs and their just causes. It is identical to Israeli plans to swallow up Arab territories and liquidate the Palestinian cause.

President Hafiz al-Asad has asserted that we, the Arabs, call and work for achievement of peace, and in order for peace to be realized, aggression and the Israeli occupation of Arab territory must end. Therefore, peace has basic principles which cannot be ignored, jumped over, or compromised under the titles of middle-of-the-road solutions and reasonable policies. Propagating such U.S. ideas, which hide under the guise of peace, is merely for consumption in world forums. Peace that denies rights and perpetuates occupation is not peace but capitulation and submission to the Zionist enemy because it is based on invasion, occupation, and usurping the land of others under the pretext of ensuring Israel's security.

As the president affirmed, this concept of peace could transform the world into one dominated by the law of the jungle. The yardstick for working for peace in the region is well defined and clear; namely, ensuring the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights and regaining all of the occupied Arab territories through an authoratative international conference under UN auspices. Any other path that does not take these principles into consideration would serve the Zionist enemy's expansionist policy and the plans to impose imperialist hegemony over the Middle East region.

Commentator on 'Futility' of Shultz Tour

JN0806060488 Damasacus Domestic Service in Arabic 1532 GMT 7 Jun 88

["Talk of the Return" by Fayiz Qandil, carried within the "Palestine Broadcast" program]

[Text] Brother strugglers: The U.S. secretary of state might have something to say or do in this or that city. The important thing, however, is not what George Shultz says or does, but how serious his statements and actions are, and how useful they are for peace, indeed for justice before peace, indeed for justice before peace in this part of the world.

As for us, we will take Shultz' statements as testimony. This testimony is not in the interest of Mr Shultz or his country as we will see now. For instance, if the U.S. secretary of state had said that peace is achieved through implementation of the UN resolutions, respecting the will of the international community, and abidance by the international law, even without naming the party meant by this, we would have said— or at least we would have imagined, although there is no room for illusions—that his tour is a serious one. But the Arabs were unfortunate since Mr Shultz did not say anything of this sort. The Arabs, by which we mean the people, the masses, and the Arab nation, never play games of chance.

The first thing that Shultz said was that continuation of what he termed the conflict is due to the failure of the Arabs and Israelis to renounce injustice, hatred, and exaggerated dreams. This is what Shultz said, believe it or not. If the question had to do with a religious or moral exhortation, we would say such a statement is acceptable. But the question, of course, is not this. This is the first proof that seriousness is lacking, or we may say the first proof of the futility of the U.S. secretary of state's tour. However, let us look into this hollow exhortation.

He called on the Arabs and the Israelis to renounce injustice. This means he equates the Arabs with the Israelis as far as injustice is concerned. Indeed, he places the Arabs ahead of the Israelis in this regard. Is there any greater injustice to the Arabs than this one done by the U.S. secretary who, ironically, calls for the renouncement of injustice. We also wonder who does injustice to whom? Were the Palestinian people the party that formed a Zionist movement to eradicate Jews from the Palestinian soil, or were the Jews the Party that eradicated most of the Palestinian people from most of their soil as an introduction to eradicate the rest?

Are the Palestinian Arab people the party that viciously breaks the bones of the Jews through their tanks and planes, or is it the Jews who do this to the Palestinians? This is the injustice that Shultz called on the Arabs and the Israelis to renounce. Now, what about the exaggerated dreams that the U.S. secretary of state is urging to renounce? Here, we also wonder: Are the right to self-determination that the Palestinians seek, the withdrawal of the Zionist occupation forces from the Palestinian soil, and the establishment of the Palestinian state, exaggerated dreams, or are they legitimate rights recognized by the United Nations and the entire world?

And what does Shultz think of what Israel calls the land of Israel, that is the whole of Palestine and Jordanian soil? Moreover, what does Shultz think of Greater Israel that extends from the Euphrates to the Nile? Are these exaggerated dreams or realistic plans? We, of course, will not ask the U.S. secretary whether these are legitimate or illegitimate dreams, because we know that some non-Jewish Zionists are more Zionist than Menahem Begin and his vicious Rabbi Me'ir Kahane.

It is clear after all this that Shultz' mission is not a serious one as far as justice and peace are concerned. It is serious, of course, in so far as the consecration of the Zionist injustice and the attainment of Arab capitulation on the basis of this injustice are concerned.

Now remains the story of hatred that Shultz called for renouncing. Here we ask those who excuse Shultz to remind him that the question has nothing to do with sentiments and emotions. All people have the right to hate their executioners and colonizers until they are removed from the people's national soil. When the Zionist colonizers are removed from our Arab soil, naturally we will not hate them, because one does not hate something that does not exist. This is as far as the Arabs are concerned.

As far as the Jews are concerned, they hate all mankind except Jews. Their hatred of the Arabs is like the hatred of the Europeans for the Arabs. It is not prompted by scorn and contempt, but by fear. History, over long centuries, has never seen a civilization or a people that were more successful than the Europeans except for Arab Islamic civilization and the Arab nation. Jews' hatred of the Arabs neither frightens the Arabs, nor causes them misery, Mr U.S. Secretary of State.

Khaddam Receives Anti-'Arafat Fatah Dissident

JN0206183588 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Jun 88

[Text] For the second time this week, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muraghah], head of the anti-'Arafat Fatah movement—the uprising. According to Abu Musa, the meeting dealt with methods to enforce agreement to end clashes that erupted late April 1988 between rival supporters of 'Arafat and Abu Musa in Palestinian camps near Beirut.

Qaddur Returns From Havana Nonaligned Meeting

JN0306192488 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 3 Jun 88

[Text] Damascus—Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Damascus from Cuba this evening after leading Syria's delegation to the emergency ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Movement's coordinating bureau was held in Havana.

Afghanistan

Report on Najibullah NBC Interview in New York

LD0806084788 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] New York, June 7, BAKHTAR—Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, who is now in New York to participate in the special sessions of the United Nations General Assembly there during an interview responded to the questions of the U.S. NBC television network.

Najibullah, during the interview conveyed best wishes of the people of the Republic of Afghanistan and himself to the American people.

The president of Afghanistan through briefly explaining the socio-political situation in Afghanistan demanded the Government of the United States that as a guarantor of the Geneva accords play its part in their implementation and not allow interferences in the internal affairs of Afghanistan be continued.

16th Memo on Pakistani Violation Submitted to UN

LD0806081988 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0506 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Kabul, June 7, BAKHTAR—The sixteenth notice of the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan on violation of the Geneva accords by Pakistan was submitted here today to the United Nations Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP), reports the liaison office of the Foreign Ministry of Afghanistan with UNGOMAP.

The notice says that the Pakistani border militias in cooperation of the armed opposition forces with the protection of artillery and surface-to-surface rockets attacked the centre of Spin Buldak district, Bambol [name as received] village and several border posts in the region on May 30, 1988. Apart from causing heavy material losses, a number of our countrymen were martyred and a mosque destroyed as well as a result of the attacks.

Providing information on the incident the notice asks the UNGOMAP to assess the violations and inform the authorities of the Republic of Afghanistan of the results.

UN Supervisor Helminen Leaves for Islamabad

LD0806085088 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0503 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Kabul, June 7, BAKHTAR—General Rauli Helminen, assistant representative of the UN general secretary who supervises the affairs of the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP) arrived in Kabul this morning.

General Helminen, after talks with the Afghan authorities and supervision of the work of UNGOMAP left Kabul for Islamabad today.

Prior to his departure, General Helminen participated in a press conference in which he answered to questions raised by the domestic and foreign journalists on regarding of the Geneva accords by the contracting parties.

Soviets Assist Kabul Troops in Qandahar Fighting

BK0706170888 Hong Kong AFP in English 1702 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Islamabad, June 7 (AFP)—Soviet troops have stopped withdrawing from Afghanistan's second largest city of Qandahar to help the Afghan Army repel mujahidin attacks, Western diplomatic sources said here Tuesday.

The Afghan Army has been suffering heavy losses and the same sources said Soviet soldiers had been killed in fighting between May 30 and June 5.

Other Soviet troops had been captured by the mujahidin, which has forced the Afghan Army to the outskirts of the city, which is the site of a major Soviet air base.

"Losses in the Kabul army were very high," Western diplomats said. About 330 decomposing bodies were waiting to be buried a week ago in Qandahar, they said.

The sources also confirmed information received last week that 60 bodies had been sent back to Kabul between May 23 and 25.

The capture of Qandahar would be particularly important for the rebels, experts said, because it is the second largest city in the country and success would show the Afghan Army is "weak" without Soviet support.

The Soviet military, aware of the vulnerability of Qandahar, have delayed further evacuation of the city, the sources said.

Soviet troops had begun leaving Qandahar 10 days ago.

Elsewhere in Afghanistan, the Soviet military has evacuated the two provincial capitals of Gardeyz and Ghazni, about 100 kilometers (62 miles) south and southeast of Kabul, the diplomats said.

Also, they said several Soviet convoys have been attacked heading home, especially north of Kabul, where the road is "extremely dangerous".

Soviet-Afghan planes bombed two cities along the road leading north to the Salang tunnel, used by the convoys to pass from Kabul to the Soviet border. All local traffic was suspended along that road between May 31 and June 5.

The convoys are protected by fire from heavy weapons which "volley in front and to the sides" of the road and several local residents had been killed in the crossfire, Western diplomats said.

The diplomats said there was fighting between the mujahidin and regular Afghan troops in Ghazni and resistance forces had taken the city, adding to the area they already control along the main road between Qandahar and Kabul, which the Soviets are using.

But rocket fire on Kabul lightened last week with five attacks on the southern and western sectors, compared with 19 the previous week.

The diplomats said Afghan forces had obtained a new type of rocket, also used by the resistance, which had a range of 20 kilometers (12 miles).

The new arms appeared for the first time two weeks ago and it is not yet known where they were obtained, they said.

Informed sources described them as being launched by huge mortars and capable of piercing hard materials to ignite the target.

The diplomats relayed information from Kabul that the Soviets had begun dropping kerosene bombs last week. These bombs explode before hitting the ground, throwing flames several hundred meters (yards), experts said.

Quoting Afghan sources, the diplomats said that "powerful and devastating" bombs of this type—also used during the Vietnam War—had been unloaded from Soviet vehicles in the past few days.

A Qandahar resident was quoted as saying such bombs had been used recently in the region. The diplomats quoted another Afghan source as saying the bombs had already been used in Vardak and in Ghazni Province, southwest of Kabul.

Only 13,000 Soviet Troops Withdrawn as of 15 May

LD0706130788 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1157 GMT 7 Jun

[By Aleksandar Stanic]

[Text] Kabul, June 7 (TANJUG)—Since May 15, when the planned Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan began, 13,000 members of the limited Soviet military contingent have returned to the Soviet Union. Afghan Minister for Border and Tribal Areas Sulayman La'eq told TANJUG.

La'eq particularly stressed that in several eastern provinces, bordering with Pakistan, there is not a single Soviet soldier left.

La'eq also said that the Afghan Army fully controls the Province of Nangahar whose capital, Jalalabad, rebels say could become the principal target of their pending offensive.

Some mujahidin leaders recently went as far as to say that the rebel government will be proclaimed in Jalalabad.

Asked to comment on rebel threats, La'eq stated firmly that Jalalabad will not fall.

Under the Geneva agreement, by August 15, half of the Soviet military contingent (around 50,000) soldiers should pull out of Afghanistan. The information that by June 6 only 13,000 Soviet soldiers have left Afghanistan is therefore somewhat surprising.

Prior to the Moscow summit between Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan it was said that by the end of May some 25,000 Soviet soldiers would leave Afghanistan.

In Afghan official circles it is impossible to get an answer to the question of whether the delay in the Soviet troop withdrawal has been perhaps caused by the aggravation of the situation on the front.

Answer to this question is always the same—the Soviet troop withdrawal is proceeding according to the plan, and plan details are a military secret.

Nangarhar Border Areas Declared 'Demilitarized'

LD0806084188 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Kabul, June 7, BAKHTAR—The extremists failed to weaken the morale of the people of Nangarhar Province by making false propaganda and hatching treacherous plots as they do not have the capability to resist against the Armed Forces of Nangarhar Province, says General Najib Ahmad Abawi, commander of Nangarhar forces in an interview to BAKHTAR.

With the return of the Soviet limited military contingents, he added, the extremists raised hues and cries through Western radios as if they can now bring under their domination the province of Nangarhar. In this way, they tried to create fear in the minds of the inhabitants of Nangarhar Province. However, they failed to do anything as the extremists do not have the capability of face-to-face confrontation with the Armed Forces in the Nangarhar Province.

The Armed Forces in Nangarhar Province are equipped with modern weapons and can fight the enemies with high morale more than ever before. They have recently scored great successes against the enemies. For instance, among other munitions, twenty nine ground-to-ground rockets were seized from the enemies in Rodat [name as received] district and sixteen of them in Chaprahar

[name as received] village of Nangarhar Province fell to the hand of Armed Forces. The armed groups of the extremists were also wiped out in those areas.

It is to be pointed out that according to the decision of the state of the Republic of Afghanistan some of the border regions such as Hesarak and Shirzad [name as received] were declared as demilitarized zones. Of course, the adoption of such measures are not the causes for weakening the Armed Forces but has taken place for providing further facilities to the Afghan returnees. The Armed Forces, he added, were called to their headquarters.

In order to implement the provisions of Geneva accords, the Armed Forces of Nangarhar Province have adopted necessary measures for the return of Afghan refugees and the latter may come back to their homeland with confidence.

General Najib Ahmad Abawi expressed thanks to the selfless assistance of the Soviet Union and recalled that when the military units of the Soviet Union got out of Samar Kheyl [name as received] region after fulfilling their internationalist duties [they] submitted their installations comprising 49 residential blocks to Nangarhar Armed Forces.

Commander of Nangarhar forces assured the inhabitants of Nangarhar Province of the combat capability of Armed Forces in Nangarhar Province for the rebuffal of any kind of organised attack from outside and the enemy's sabotage.

The Armed Forces of Nangarhar Province are quite prepared at any moment to inflict a crushing blow to the enemies and to defend independently the territorial integrity and national independence of the country.

Soviet Troops Withdraw From Ghazni Province

LD0806082988 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Kabul, June 7, BAKHTAR—After the announcement of the policy of national reconciliation in the country, the Ghazni Province and its suburbs have been witnessing tremendous gains achieved under this humanistic policy, says Colonel 'Abdul Wahid, head of the political department of Ghazni garrison in an interview with our military reporter in that province.

After the signing of the Geneva accords, he went on to say, fifteen villages which were formerly under the influence of the extremist groups peacefully joined the process of national reconciliation policy and their inhabitants defend the gains of this policy.

The Armed Forces in the Ghazni Province have established deep patriotic ties with its inhabitants and most often tackle their problems. The peace caravans of contingents and detachments of Armed Forces in Ghazni permanently go to different localities of Ghazni and beside helping them in their daily routine distribute gratis aid goods of the friendly country of the Soviet Union to the people, he said.

Responsibles of Armed Forces, police and state security organs in Ghazni Province along the local peoples take active part in the construction of roads, repair of mosques, schools, cleaning of canals and macadamising of roads voluntarily, he added.

Security in Ghazni is now improving by every passing day.

The limited military contingent of the Soviet Union left Ghazni for their peace loving country recently, he said.

The noble people of Ghazni side by side with the Armed Forces defend the gains of the policy of national reconciliation and take active part in the construction of their localities, 'Abdul Wahid noted.

Mujahidin Down Government Helicopter 4 Jun

LD0806084488 Tehran IRNA in English 0720 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Islamabad, June 8, IRNA—Afghan mujahidin downed a helicopter of government Air Force 213 kilometers south of Kabul on June 4.

The pilot of the copter was also killed in the crash.

Bangladesh

Amendment Passed Making Islam State Religion

BK0706161288 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Excerpt] The Jatiya Sangsad passed this evening the Constitution Eighth Amendment Bill, 1988. With the passage of the bill, Islam becomes the country's state religion. Simultaneously, other religions will also be practiced freely in peace and harmony in the country. The bill also provides for the setting up of six permanent high court benches outside the capital.

Winding up the discussion, leader of the House and Deputy Prime Minister Maudud Ahmed said the amendment to include Islam as the religion is an expression of the will of the majority people of this country to consolidate our independence and sovereignty. People of other religions or other countries, the prime minister assured, need not be worried or concerned about this bill as Bangladesh believes in cordiality and friendship with all. He said Islam is a religion of tolerance and peace. It acknowledges the rights of other people to profess and practice their religions and faiths with complete freedom without fear. He quoted verses of the holy Koran to substantiate his statement, adding that the great prophet of Islam Hazrat Muhammad, Sallallaho Alaihi Osallam [God's blessing be upon him], combined in himself the leadership of religion and secularism.

Describing the passing of the bill as a historic event, Mr Maudud Ahmed said our future generation will pray for us for giving the nation an ideological entity and recognition. He said Bangladeshi nationalism has come to stay till eternity. The leader of the House said the government of President Ershad does not believe in fundamentalism, nor trading in religion. The purpose of the amendment bill is to dissuade those [who trade in religion] and reflects the hopes and legitimate aspirations of the overwhelming majority of our people. He also criticized those raising the bogey of national unity being jeopardized and said in fact they themselves do not believe in national unity.

The prime minister refuted the contention that secularism was the basis of liberation war. Rather, he said, there was no mention in the proclamation of independence made on the 17th of April 1971. He said secularism can, at best, be a principle, not an ideology. Secularism is a right already given by democracy while incorporation of Islam as a state religion is an ideological affiliation of the nation to which a missing link has been established with everything in our state document except our religion, he added.

The leader of the opposition, A.S.M. Abdur Rab said the amendment for establishing Islam as a state religion is absolutely unnecessary. He maintained that if the bill is passed by virtue of majority vote, it will create a breach in the national unity instead of further consolidating it. He also feared that the amendment may also give the fundamentalists an opportunity to fan communalism and, what he called, destroy a forward-looking society. He pleaded for withdrawing the bill or circulating it for eliciting public opinion or refer it to standing committees on law and religion.

The opposition leader also described the bill as technically defective. He challenged the competence of this parliament to pass the bill with defects. Mr Rab, however, supported the move to establish six permanent high court benches outside the capital and demanded three more such benches in Rajshahi, Mymensingh, and Chittagong Hill Tracts. Nineteen members of the opposition demanded the circulation of the bill for eliciting public opinion. Their demand was rejected by voice vote. [passage omitted]

Opposition Stages Walkout

BK0806033888 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] In Bangladesh, the controversial constitution amendment bill declaring Islam a state religion has been approved by the Parliament. Fifteen opposition members staged a walkout in protest. The country's main opposition leaders have all along opposed President Ershad's move saying that it would encourage communal forces and destroy the country's secular character.

Meanwhile, the capital, Dhaka, is rocked by protest marches.

Campus Security Tightened

BK0806062288 Hong Kong AFP in English 0559 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Dhaka, June 8 (AFP)—The authorities tightened security around Dhaka University Wednesday after late night protests by students protesting the passage of a controversial bill making Islam the state religion.

Security was stepped up around the politically volatile campus and roads passing through the university area in downtown Dhaka were sealed off for fear of further violence Wednesday, police said.

Helmeted riot police armed with teargas and bamboo truncheons were posted at the main approaches to the campus, witnesses said.

Students protesting the bill set fire to at least two lorries and damaged nearly a dozen other vehicles Tuesday night after the Bangladesh Parliament passed a constitutional amendment declaring Islam the state religion in this predominantly Muslim country, police said.

Opposition parties also staged street protests in the Bangladesh capital after Parliament passed the bill.

The bill now needs the approval of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad, who had proposed the constitutional amendment during parliamentary elections in March.

Prime Minister Holds Talks With Burmese Minister

BK0306160388 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Jun 88

[Text] Bangladesh and Burma have expressed the desire to explore the possibilities for further cooperation between the two countries in various fields to the mutual benefit of the two countries. The view was expressed at the inaugural meeting between Prime Minister Moudad Ahmed and the visiting Burmese minister for industries, U Tint Swe. Three working groups were formed at the meeting to work out details to explore cooperation in the fields of industry, trade, and shipping. A 19-member delegation headed by Prime Minister Moudad Ahmed represented Bangladesh at the talks, while the visiting Burmese minister of industries, U Tint Swe, led his country's delegation.

Welcoming the Burmese delegation, the prime minister said Bangladesh attaches great importance to its relations with Burma. He said this relation, which is growing steadily over the past 1 and 1/2 decades, has been fairly consolidated by continued mutual efforts. The prime minister termed Burma as one of the most friendly neighbors and said Bangladesh would do everything possible to strengthen the ties.

Reciprocating the sentiments, the leader of the Burmese delegation said Burma is eager to expand trade and economic cooperation with Bangladesh.

The Burmese delegation arrived in Dhaka this morning on an 8-day visit to Bangladesh. During the visit the Burmese delegation will call on President Ershad. It will also hold talks with Shipping Minister Moidul Islam and State Minister for Commerce H.M.A. Ghaffar on matters of mutual interest. The current visit of the Burmese delegation came as a follow-up of the visit of President Ershad to Rangoon in April last.

Troops Kill 2 Shanti Bahini Insurgents
BK0606070688 Hong Kong AFP in English 0639 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Text] Dhaka, June 6 (AFP)—At least two tribal Shanti Bahini insurgents have been killed in a shootout with government troops in the southeastern Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh, a newspaper said here Monday.

Two government troops were also injured in the exchange of fire with the rebels on Wednesday at Chakatoli in the hill tracts, about 200 kilometres (124 miles) from here, the NEW NATION said in a delayed report.

The rebels had reportedly attacked a government patrol which repulsed the attack, killing the two men, the newspaper said.

On the same day, another encounter between rebels and government troops took place in neighbouring Barkal sub-district in which at least two people were injured, reports said.

On Saturday, suspected Shanti Bahini insurgents killed at least four Bengali-speaking settlers in two separate attacks in the hill tracts.

At least 88 people have been killed this year in violence in the hilly, jungle-clad districts which cover some 13,000 square kilometers (5,200 square miles) of land bordering India and Burma.

The Shanti Bahini insurgents, led by the influential Chakma tribesmen, are fighting for tribal autonomy and the expulsion of several hundred thousand Bengali Moslem settlers from the hill tracts.

India

Demolition Work Around Golden Temple Postponed
BK0706130488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] The demolition work around the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar under the beautification plan has been put off. It was to begin today. The decision to postpone it was taken after the district administration held several round of talks with the representatives of the affected people of the area.

The deputy commissioner of Amritsar said the demolition work will start after alternative arrangements are made for the affected landlords and tenets. The deputy commissioner appealed to the protesting people of Gali Bagh Wali over the public address system to disperse and open their business establishments. The district administration has invited representatives of the affected people for further negotiations.

Gandhi on Pakistani Support of 'Terrorists'
BK0806051088 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] The prime minister has said that the recent flushing out of terrorists from the Golden Temple complex has caused a serious setback to the designs of the separatists. In an interview to a Syrian daily, Mr Gandhi said the overwhelming majority of the people of Punjab is totally opposed to the separatist movement, which has been carried on by a handful of extremists with external support.

On Indo-Pak relations, he said India is seriously concerned at Islamabad's incitement, support, and provision of sophisticated arms to terrorists in Punjab.

The prime minister also replied to a number of questions on the Indo-Sri Lankan accord and on the Palestinian issues.

15 Terrorists Arrested; Arms Seized
BK0806031088 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Fifteen terrorists have been arrested by the security forces in Patiala and Faridkot Districts. Nine of them, including the self-styled area commanders of the so-called Khalistan Commando Force, Zail Singh, and Budd Singh, were apprehended after a brief encounter near Moga last night. A huge quantity of arms and ammunition were seized from them. Six terrorists were arrested in Patiala District. They were involved in a number of crimes.

'Terrorists' Kill 4 in Punjab; Arms Recovered
BK0806075388 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Four persons have been shot dead by terrorists in Punjab since last night. Two terrorists gunned down a priest at Manakrai village in Jullundur District early this morning. A farmer was killed, when he was returning from his field in the same district. In Amritsar District, two brothers were shot dead in village Terai.

Police have also recovered a large number of arms and ammunition from village Gopalpur this morning in the same district. These include one rocket launcher, four rockets, two AK assault rifles, four chargers and a

number of cartridges. The recoveries were made following a clue given by the terrorists who surrendered from the Golden Temple complex.

President To Visit USSR, Mongolia in July
BK0606160388 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Text] The president, Mr R. Venkataraman, is to pay a state visit to the Soviet Union and Mongolia next month. This was officially announced in New Delhi today. During the visit Mr Venkataraman will participate in the closing ceremony of the Festival of India. The president will go to the Mongolian People's Republic on the 13th of next month. It will be the first ever visit by a president of India to that country. Mr Venkatarman will hold talks with the Mongolian leaders and attend a civic reception.

Paper on Efforts To Solve Border Issue With PRC
BK0606064188 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 29 May 88 p 1

[From Malabika Bhattacharya]

[Text] Calcutta, May 28—The midnight parley between Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Chief Minister Jyoti Basu in Delhi yesterday on the eve of Mr Basu's visit to China has assumed considerable significance especially when efforts are being made to restore friendly relations between the two countries.

According to highly reliable sources, Mr Basu was scheduled to meet Mr Gandhi in the evening but the meeting finally took place around 12 at night. Apparently, Mr Basu apprised the Prime Minister of the latest situation in Darjeeling and the need to bring GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] leader Subash Ghising to the negotiating table to come to a settlement on the GNLF problem. But the main issue of discussion between the two leaders centred around China and how Mr Basu could be of help in doing the spadework for the Prime Minister's visit to that country before the end of the year.

It is learnt that Mr Basu would take up the issue of the Sino-Indian border dispute, the principal hurdle on the way to friendly relations between the two countries with the Chinese leaders and try to work out the principles of agreement which could be arrived at by the two nations when the Prime Minister visits China.

According to highly informed sources, a section of the Congress-I leadership known for their Socialist leanings have been trying for more than a year now to persuade the Prime Minister to make Mr Jyoti Basu agree to act as an emissary of Mr Gandhi to China. To them, Mr Basu, in every way was the right person to accomplish such a delicate task.

Mr Basu belongs to the CPI-M which supports the foreign policy of the Rajiv Gandhi government and moreover Mr Basu's visit would look innocuous as there is a facade of strengthening party to party ties between the Communist Party of India (Marxist) and the Communist [as published] of China.

Political observers point out that there has been a spate of visits to China by high-level delegations in the recent times. Only on May 7 this year a four member team which included Mr R.L. Bhatia, Mr Baliram Bhagat, Mr H.K.L. Bhagat and Mr Satpal Mittal had been to China. The team came back full of optimistic beliefs.

The Chinese leaders had given them the impression that the prickly issue of border dispute could be solved through mutual understanding and spirit of friendliness. Once again, an inter-ministerial team will undertake a visit to China on June 4 in a bid to develop trade between the two nations.

Industry Minister N.D. Tiwari's high praise for the Chinese economy during his trip to Calcutta on May 21 also indicates the urge to restore a normal relationship between China and India at the earliest. Mr Jyoti Basu's visit to China is expected to help the Government prepare itself for arriving at a lasting solution to the border dispute by the end of the year.

Iran

Khomeyni, Va'ez-Tabasi Exchange Letters
LD0706133488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Abbas Va'ez-Tabasi, the imam's representative and custodian of the holy shrine of Imam Reza [in Mashhad], has sent a letter to Imam Khomeyni. In it he discusses the services rendered by the holy shrine to the battlefronts and the fighters of Islam and on the start of construction work on the Razavi Science University, the huge central library, cultural and research centers, glorious Islamic buildings, reclamation of agricultural lands, and the development of charity land. This cannot be compared with what was done for years before the victory of the Islamic Revolution.

He also asked his holiness to express his views on the illogical moves of some individuals and elements who unknowingly have damaged some of the agricultural land, crops, and equipment of the holy shrine and have disrupted affairs and agricultural production.

The imam of the ummah graciously said in a letter addressed to Mr Va'ez-Tabasi:

In His exalted name. Your Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Tabasi, custodian of the holy Reza shrine, may your blessings continue. I greet you and wish you greater success. No one can deny your efforts and the hardships you endured before the revolution and until its fruition, and also your endeavors following the revolution to

stabilize the young Islamic Republic. Your Excellency is one of the oustanding managers of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, particularly in Khorasan Province.

All the responsible officials of the Islamic system, including Your Excellency, must remove the obstacles along the path and move forward with patience and expediency in a manner that pleases God. You have never held back your efforts for justice and for assisting the deprived and the meek, and you will not hold back your efforts in future either. As before, you must note that you should act in accordance with the instruction of the ulema and without any leniency when dealing with offenders who violate endowments of His Holiness Imam Reza, peace be upon you.

I hope that with coordination between you and the responsible officials of that holy land all the endowments of the eighth imam, peace be upon him, will be properly safeguarded. The relevant officials should offer the necessary assistance whenever you need it so that with the help of all the officials greater services can be offered to the poor and to the needy, to please Almighty God. I beseech Almightu God to grant you success.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni, 7 June 1988

Montazeri Responds to Palestinian Fund Request
LD0706213988 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] According to IRNA, the Islamic Jihad movement of Palestine, sent a letter sent to Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. The movement noted its recent expansion and growth and mentioned the important point that the risen nation of Palestine, having given up hope in all reactionary governments and current political equations, is continuing its Islamic struggle until it achieves final victory by relying solely on Almighty God and in hopes of assisting the Muslims of the world.

The letter asks the esteemed grand ayatollah that, if he deems it advisable, a fund be set up under the name of the Beyt ol-Moqaddas Fund for helping the Islamic movement of the oppressed Palestinian nation. In this way, the donations and monetary of Muslims may be placed in that fund by the Friday prayers leaders and congregations and be used for helping the Palestinian fighters and mujahids, under the supervision of the deputy leader.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri sent the following reply:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Brother and sister fighters, members of the Islamic jihad movement! May your successes continue. Salutes and may God's blessings on you continue. I received your noble letter. Moral and material assistance and support for all Islamic movements, particularly the Islamic movement and the revolution of the Muslim and oppressed nation of Palestine, is the religious and revolutionary duty of every committed Muslim and to this end, at the start of the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, I opened Account No 7,100 in the Melli Bank in Qom.

This account is now open and, up to now, some assistance has been received, as much as could be afforded, for the Islamic liberation movements. Your Islamic movement, you, committed brothers and sisters, your role in the growth of the Islamic movement and the revolution of the Islamic nation of Palestine, your rejection of all hopes in reactionary governments and political equations and games, and your reliance on God Almighty and his decisive promises of victory over the enemy are worthy of praise and blessings.

I hope that soon, under the guidance of and taking comfort in life-giving Islamic ideology and unity of voice, all resistant and devoted forces and the self-sacrifices of all the strata of the oppressed Palestinian nation and the material and spiritual unity of fervent Muslims will make God grant final victory, cut off the hands of global Zionism, and grant the liberation of noble Jerusalem. If you assist God, He will assist you and strengthen your step. God's peace, benedictions, and blessings be upon you.

[Signed] Your brother, Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, 3 June 1988

Hashemi-Rafsanjani's Anniversary Speech
LD0806135088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0932 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Speech by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Majlis speaker and acting commander in chief of the Armed Forces, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the 5 June uprising; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted] Following the events of 5 June, we were victorious over global arrogance, but will global arrogance leave the arena after a defeat? Is the job done and are our troubles over? You see that we still have to put up with hardship. A superpower that has compiled decades of colonial and arrogant records; a superpower with thousands of agents, hirelings, and spies inside our society; and a superpower that says it has vital interests here and is dreaming of mastery over the world will not give up. There is no need to elaborate further.

Often we have seen that they have been thrown out of the door only to return through the window. They always stage maneuvers. They have years of experience and countless tricks for ways of returning. Since the victory of the revolution, we have had to confront their various new tricks at almost every turn. We would be naive to think that they are going to leave us alone so easily.

The day we feel that our troubles are over and we can go back to our normal life will mark a new beginning. They are waiting for such a day; that is, when routine living would lead to indifference and lethargy in our society. If they could succeed in creating division among us, that would be ideal for them. At first they tried to derail the revolution by making a pact with the liberals; that is, they wanted to eat the seed of the revolution and discard the shell. However, they failed, because this revolution was truly Islamic and dependent on the leader, who was also the source of imitation and supreme guardian and jurisconsult.

They resorted to terrorist acts and a so-called armed uprising to push us out of the arena, but they failed. They then waged a war against us, but their trick misfired and our nation became more united. They employed every means at their disposal to disperse us and create discord among us. However, thanks be to God, they failed. Our nation should therefore remain vigilant to escape the danger posed by such tricks. Unfortunately, in a democratic system we have to remain more vigilant. For instance, Majlis elections were held, but we had to remain alert, and after the elections we joined hands and congratulated one another.

We must say that now that we have been elected and have found our way here, we must work together. If we were to show such a degree of understanding, this democratic process would not weaken us. If some individuals feel they have a grievance, they should overlook that for the sake of the system's principles. When the system is (?fully established) they will have plenty of time to make up for their grievances. From the first day that we entered the arena of struggle [during the shah's era], we had prepared ourselves for being imprisoned or killed in the streets. During the demonstrations before the victory revolution, we never expected to go back to our houses unharmed. Well, we have had the added bonus of living for 10 more years since then. We must preserve the same morale of the prerevolution era.

What I have said so far was the first point I wanted to mention today. The second point is the main issue I wish to discuss. As I said before, the main reason behind our victory is Islamic faith and the people's morale. If, God forbid, we were to depart from the principles of the revolution, that is, this ocean of unity of the forces of the Islamic revolution, then our destiny would be different. We must never allow ourselves to be intimidated by intellectual ideas disguised as revolutionary ideas.

No doubt the hypocrites [Mojahedin-e Khalq] were serious fighters at the time of the struggle, but the difference was their deviant ideas, which eventually turned them into pawns of the United States. Now they martyr our children, our fighting and selfless mobilization forces, and are proud of serving under Saddam to plant bombs and to martyr our children. They still call themselves Islamic (?but this is not) the way to win people's hearts.

We must discover what our imam is saying and then we should follow his instructions. [Words indistinct] we are dutybound to serve within the framework of velayat-e faqih [rule by jurisconsult]. And if we follow (?our imam) then we have made our pledge with God; and even if we die for this cause, it would not matter because we have good intentions. If we reach a high status along this path, that would be an act of devotion for us. [passage omitted]

The third point is vigilance. We must not become unaware of the enemy or harbor the naive thought that the enemy will leave us alone. We still have a long way to go before our enemies completely abandon hope. They will never give up hope. We saw recently that when Reagan went to the Soviet Union, he was mouthing propaganda against his host inside the Soviet Union. He is anxious to influence the Soviet people to the advantage of his own arrogant (?ways). They are that way with each other. They would swallow each other up if they could, as well as the well-established powers of the world, let alone us. We must always withstand the storm so that we are not blown away. We must be wary.

Look around you! They announced (?today) [words indistinct] that they have brought one of their most modern warships to the Persian Gulf, a warship they say has a value of $1 billion. Warships that are at the disposal of countries such as ours are usually worth around 10, 20, 30, or the very good ones, 40 million dollars. A warship that is worth $1 billion to the United States must obviously be well-equipped. Why did they bring such a sensitive warship within range of our missiles, even within the range of our boats? It is obvious that they consider us to be a great danger.

It is obvious that they are very hostile toward us. (?Thirty to forty) warships in the limited waters of the Persian Gulf, the unreasonable mischief, the unreasonable trangressions, the senseless (?support) for an aggressor and war-mongering regime and someone who does not follow any international laws—all of this shows the extent of their hostility toward us.

So many missiles have been given to a madman, who, whenever he has a fit of madness, fires them on people's heads; so many aircraft; so many (?sensitive) bombs—all given to a country which tomorrow may turn into a base for a people who are against Israel, a people who might get them. They accept the risk of a future danger in order to remove the present danger.

We cannot feel secure. If we relax even for a moment in the war effort, it will be (?a major loss). We must go as far as the imam has told us is our duty and that task is not easy. We are used to fighting using popular forces, volunteers. Other armies in the world do not do this. They use their soldiers and their reserve forces who serve compulsorily. Iraq itself has not released its soldiers for 10 years, but we have done so (?regularly). If from the start we had adopted another method, things may have

been different now. We have had the habit so far of (?defending) ourselves using the people. If these people are not on the fronts in sufficient numbers, the fronts will become weak points.

Therefore, to benefit from years of victory, years of success, years of advancement, and years of attacking the enemy, we must maintain our presence on the fronts. The armed forces must use the people well so that, God willing, we can remove the last currently existing weapon from the hand of arrogance and be vigilant once again for the next weapon they might show to us. That is our life. We see life in that meaningful phrase of Imam Husayn: Life is nothing other than faith and jihad. All the other issues are the embellishments of life. What is valuable for a human being is to believe in a goal, an ideal—and the ideal of justice now is Islam—and to wage jihad in order to realize that ideal.

If that is our life's (?path), we will no longer be afraid of fighting blasphemy, we will not be afraid of their constant conspiracies, we will even welcome the fact that the battlefield of jihad is always open to us. Today we renew our allegiance with the pure spirits of the martyrs of 5 June and all the martyrs that followed in the illuminated mosque; we will follow their path. We will not be still and, God willing, our children will also continue that path. We also thank those who, at this point in the history of Islam, held these ceremonies.

We also extend our sympathy to the dear families of the martyrs of 5 June and other families of martyrs, POW's, and disabled ones. We pray to God to preserve the worthy shadow of his eminence the imam of the ummah for the people. May God's peace and mercy be upon you all.

Shahbazi on Hashemi-Rafsanjani Appointment

LD0806111888 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Brigadier General Shahbazi, chief of the Joint Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces, had an interview with the Central News Unit. He elaborated on the effects throughout the Armed Forces of the recent decree of his holiness the imam:

The issuance of that decree, in addition to providing unity of command, will also guide the efforts and enable the maximum utilization of all facilities. Under conditions when all the enemies have united against us, the only way to neutralize all these conspiracies is to act in accordance with the imam's recent decree. I hope that this matter will be implemented, executed, and supervised in the best possible way.

Regarding the Iranian Armed Forces' fighting capability, he said: Fortunately, the fighting capability of all the forces is very high. While the United States' claim that it had delivered a blow to the Iranian Navy made the world public opinion believe that Iran no longer has the capability to respond, the "Zolfaqar-3" maneuvers were held with complete success proving that our forces are still the determining forces in the region.

Reportage on Visit of Bulgarian Prime Minister

Arrives With Delegation 7 Jun

LD0706140588 Tehran IRNA in English 1325 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 7, IRNA—Bulgarian Prime Minister Georgi Atanasov, heading a top level delegation, arrived here Tuesday afternoon and was officially greeted by his Iranian counterpart Hoseyn Musavi at Tehran's Mehrabad International Airport. During the official welcoming ceremony, the national anthems fo the two countries were played and then the two premiers reviewed the guard of honour at the airport.

Makes Arrival Statement

LD0706174888 Tehran IRNA in English 1657 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 7, IRNA—Bulgarian Prime Minister Georgi Atanasov upon his arrival in Tehran today afternoon expressed hope that his talks with Iranian officials would help deepen Tehran-Sofia ties and peace among nations.

The Bulgarian premier who is here at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart Hoseyn Musavi said that during his stay in Tehran he will confer with Iranian officials on issues of mutual interest.

Welcoming Ananasov and his entourage, Musavi said that bilateral relations and the Middle East issues would be discussed during talks.

Musavi noting that Iran-Bulgaria ties have constantly been expanding since the victory of the Islamic Revolution (1979), considered the further expansion of mutual relations as "beneficial to both sides and the world peace".

Besides the premier, other prominent Iranian officials present at the Mehrabad International Airport to receive the Bulgarian delegation included Agriculture Minister 'Abbas 'Ali Zali and deputy Prime Minister for Political Affairs 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri.

In the first visit to Islamic Iran by a Bulgarian prime minister, Atanasov is accompanied by the head of Iran-Bulgaria joint technical and economic commission Khristo Khristov, Bulgarian deputy minister of foreign affairs, deputy minister of transport, and some other Bulgarian officials.

During his three-day visit, Atanasov will hold talks with President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, and prime minister Hoseyn Musavi.

The Bulgarian premier is to leave Tehran on Thursday according to the planned schedule.

First Round of Talks Assessed

NC0806095588 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] The first round of talks between the prime ministers of Iran and Bulgaria took place yesterday afternoon. Present at the talks were members of the two countries' high-ranking delegations. During these talks, which lasted more than 2 hours, the further expansion of relations between the two countries was emphasized.

In his speech, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi welcomed the chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers and the delegation accompanying him, explained the Islamic Republic's economic, political, and cultural policies, and pointed to the two countries' great potential for expanding relations.

Expressing satisfaction with the progress achieved by the two countries' joint committee for economic and technical cooperation, the prime minister stated: When planning for our relations up to year 2000 in the committee, we do not consider that year as the end of relations between the two countries. It means that the joint committee wants to make arrangements for long-term relations.

Referring to the great investments by the Islamic Republic of Iran for its [word indistinct] future, the prime minister pointed out the role of the East Bloc countries in joint activities with the Islamic Republic of Iran, and stated: We welcome Bulgaria's wishes to expand commercial relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The prime minister also discussed the U.S. objectives in imposing the war on the Islamic Republic of Iran, and pointed out: The end of this imperialist war that has been imposed on us will come only with the administration of justice. Our people are determined to resist until justice is done.

The prime minister also said: The United States had a history of 30 years of influence in this country. It set up its spy bases and set up programs for the extraction of 11 million barrels of oil belonging to our people. However, with the victory of the Islamic Revolution, it lost an excellent opportunity. Therefore, it is natural for the United States to hold a grudge against us.

The chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers then expressed his happiness on visiting Iran, stating: We have always considered Iran a friendly and neighboring [as heard] country, and the friendship between the two countries has historic and cultural roots. He added: The friendship between the two countries has historic and cultural roots. He said: Our friendship with Iran, whose rich culture has influenced ours, is important.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria then described the economic, technical, and scientific progress taking place in Bulgaria, as well as cultural developments, and pointed out the need to expand commercial relations between the two countries. Referring to the problems of implementing a new strategy encompassing political, economic, and industrial changes and developments in his country's programs, he pointed to the need for planning for the two countries' long-term relations.

The chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers referred to the role played by imperialism in starting the imposed war, and described the U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf as the reason for the exacerbation of tension in the region.

During the meeting the members of the two countries' delegations discussed joint specialized economic and technical issues.

Transportation Talks Held With Bulgaria

LD0406114588 Tehran IRNA in English 1105 GMT 4 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 4, IRNA—The first round of Tehran-Sofia transportation talks was held at the site of the ports and shipping organisation here Friday. The discussions follow a protocol between the two countries in April.

Establishment of air connection between Tehran and Sofia as well as transportation of Iran's goods from Europe via Bulgaria and the Black Sea were discussed in the meeting.

The two sides also talked about railways activities, surface transportation and project of the breakwater of Shahid Beheshti port.

The Bulgarian delegation arrived here Thursday.

Meanwhile, the 17th Iran-Soviet transportation conference was held Friday during which [word indistinct] of marine transportation between the two countries were discussed.

The Soviet delegation arrived here Thursday afternoon.

Agreement on Black Sea Route

LD0706082588 Tehran IRNA in English 0708 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormozgan Prov., June 7, IRNA—A Bulgarian economic delegation here to discuss Iran-Bulgaria transportation inspected the marine installations of Iran's ports and shipping organisation here Monday. The delegation arrived here last Thursday within the framework of Iran-Bulgaria transport agreement.

Head of the Iranian ports and shipping organisation who leads the Iranian delegation in the meet Mohammad Madadi said that the two sides reached agreement on cooperation in road, air, marine and railway transporation and purchase and chartering of ships.

He added that Bulgaria wanted to charter Iran's dredging boats and noted that during their visit to Bandar-e 'Abbas they observed the operations of the boats, and visited Shahid Raja'i port.

On road transportation, they agreed to establish facilities for transporation of goods purchased by Iran from Europe via Burgas port in Bulgaria and the Black Sea.

The two countries are to sign a protocol at the end of the delegation's visit on Thursday.

In another development, a Soviet economic delegation currently here inspected the Shahid Raja'i pier here Monday.

The delegation arrived here last Thursday within the framework of the 17th Iran-Soviet naval transport conference.

Khamene'i Meets With New Envoy to Zambia

LD0406171588 Tehran IRNA in English 1617 GMT 4 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 4, IRNA—Following the establishment Tehran-Lusaka political ties, Mohsen Paka'en, who is to head the Iranian mission in Zambia, met President 'Ali Khamene'i today.

During the meeting the president gave necessary guidelines to Paka'en concerning Iran-Zambia relations. He also stressed Iran's support for the righteous campaigns of the oppressed African nation against the racist South African regime.

Paka'en will leave Tehran for Lusaka shortly.

On May 1, Zambian President Kenneth D. Kaunda had announced Zambia and Iran were to establish formal political relations.

Velayati Receives New Angolan Ambassador

LD0606183888 Tehran IRNA in English 1810 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 6, IRNA—Angola's accredited Ambassador to Tehran Jose Cesar Augosto met Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and presented a copy of his credentials, here Monday.

The Angolan official briefed Velayati on issues concerning southern Africa and struggles of the regional peoples against Pretoria's apartheid regime.

In response Velayati adverting to expansion of Iran's relations with Third World countries especially African states stressed on the Islamic Republic's struggles in southern Africa [as received].

He also emphasised on the need for promotion of bilateral relations.

Augosto lauded Iran's backing for Frontline African countries expressing hope that meetings between the two countries' officials would continue at higher levels.

Mo'ayeri Receives New Omani Charge to Tehran

LD0406180888 Tehran IRNA in English 1754 GMT 4 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 4, IRNA—The new Omani charge d'affaires to Tehran, Rashid ibn Mubarak ibn Rashid al Odwani [name as received] held talks with Deputy Prime Minister for Political Affairs 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri Saturday and discussed with him issues of mutual interest.

The Omani envoy expressed hope that peace can be secured in the Persian Gulf only with the cooperation of littoral states and the foreign forces would eventually pull out from the region.

In response Mo'ayeri emphasized on the improvement of bilateral ties, elucidating the stands of the Islamic Republic of Iran towards the Persian Gulf states.

Mo'ayeri Receives Group of Iraqi Clergy

LD0406152088 Tehran IRNA in English 1501 GMT 4 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 4, IRNA—Deputy Prime Minister for Political Affairs 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri here Saturday received a group of ulema from Iraqi Kurdistan.

Shaykh 'Uthman, a prominent religious leader of Iraqi Kurdistan said that Iraq's ulema by crossing the border to Iran and seeking asylum have brought further loss of face to the Iraqi Ba'thist ruler. He added that Iraqi Kurds through cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Iran strive for a vigorous campaign against the Baghdad regime.

Shaykh 'Uthman also expressed appreciation for the warm welcome accorded to Iraqi refugees by the Islamic Republic.

In response Mo'ayeri noted that the hostile attitude of world oppressors towards Iran was due to their animosity against Islam. The same attitude explains the harassment of Iraqi Kurdish ulema because of the latter's love for Islam, he told the visitors.

Iraqi Kurds who are streaming into Iran are the guests of the Islamic Republic and are treated as such, Mo'ayeri said.

Struggle of the Iraqi Kurds will be a determining factor in the downfall of Saddam (Husayn), he added and cited last March's Halabjah genocide by the Iraqi regime as a clear sign of its hostility towards Iraqi Muslim Kurds. He stressed that downfall of the Iraqi Ba'thist regime will come through a unified struggle of all Iraqi groups.

Deputy Foreign Minister Lavasani Returns from Cuba
NC0406063688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 4 Jun 88

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Mr Lavasani, the Foreign Ministry's director general for Arab and African countries, who visited Cuba at the head of a delegation to participate in the extraordinary meeting of the Nonaligned Movement's coordination office, returned to Tehran with Mr Velayati and gave a brief interview to our correspondent.

Commenting on the outcome of his visit to Havana, he referred to the extraordinary meeting of the nonaligned nations and said: The special UN session on disarmament was of particular importance for the Nonaligned Movement, which is made up of Third World countries. During this extraordinary session, two resolutions were seriously pursued, the first on the use of chemical weapons by the Iraqi regime, and the other on the U.S. attack in the Persian Gulf. Both of these directly concerned the disarmament issue.

Interior Minister on 'State Punishment' Plan
NC0706103188 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Interior Minister Mr Mohtashemi attended a news conference yesterday in which he discussed the implementation of the plan for state punishment in municipalities throughout the country.

The minister of interior stated: Special committees will study the people's complaints against about 500 municipalities throughout the country, as well as violations of municipal regulations by the people. If violations are proven, the violators will be dealt with on the basis of the law on state punishments.

He added: Several months ago we sent a letter to the imam of the ummah, asking for an opinion on implementing the law on state punishments in municipal affairs. This letter was aimed at preventing injustice against the people and enormous abuses in construction and town planning, and at ensuring the precise implementation of the laws and regulations of municipalities. His holiness the imam wrote in the margin of the letter:

In the name of the Almighty, state punishments will apply to violators of the municipalities' regulations and laws. The interior minister added: The plan for state punishments in the municipalities was thus compiled. The plan will be implemented as soon as the people are informed of it. The plan has been approved by the prime minister and sent to the Interior Ministry.

The interior minister continued: Previously, violations in municipalities were studied within the municipalities by a committee on the basis of Article 100 of the law on municipalities, and punishments were set. Later, concerning the tasks of the Article 100, committees were assigned to the judicial power, and court branches in the cities dealt with such violations. On the basis of Article 11 of the state punishments regulation, the municipality dossiers that have been referred to in the courts are retrievable and fall under the regulation on state punishments.

The properties and lands of municipalities confiscated by persons or legal entities will be repossessed after examination by the committees in charge of studying state punishments. The addendum to this article states that dossiers that have until now received a vote by judicial officials, but on which work has not ended on the basis of permits, will fall under the regulation on state punishments of the municipalities if any violations are committed henceforth. [sentence as heard]

The deputy interior minister for development affairs then discussed the implementation of the plan for state punishments in municipalities, saying: On the basis of the regulation on state punishments in municipalities, which has been circulated to all general governorates and the Tehran Municipality, there are three groups of violations by citizens or municipal employees that can be prosecuted. These violations are: violations involving construction of housing units or commercial buildings; general non-construction violations; and violations pertaining to the municipalities' employees.

He added: Violation of the rules on allowed percentages for construction or related violations of municipality regulations will be subject to various punishments. Similar violations by the people and municipality employees will be prevented. The failure of an employee or official to submit a report will be prosecuted by the committees

for state punishments of municipalities. These committees will study other violations as well, such as the dumping of waste in public places, the dumping of waste by shops and businesses, and the dumping of construction waste on public roads.

Truck drivers who dump construction waste on a road will be subject to a fine of 5,000 rials for the first offense. If repeated, the fine will be 10,000 rials and the vehicle will be impounded. On the third offense the punishment will be the removal of the license plate and payment for damages incurred by the municipalities. He said: If a violation is committed by municipality employees, the punishment will range from salary deduction to discharge. The committee for state punishments in municipalities will also handle punishments for graffiti, the posting of advertisements in unauthorized places, the establishment of installations harmful to general health, the slaughtering of (?animals), and the setting up of excavation networks.

The deputy interior minister for development affairs added that noncompliance with the punishment decree will be followed by more severe steps: temporary arrest for up to 15 days; the severance of general urban services; and, in more severe cases, up to 74 lashes.

Tehran Claims New U.S. Base Built in Bahrain

LD0806123988 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Ignoring the increasing protests of the Muslim people of Bahrain against the presence of U.S. military personnel in that country, the Bahraini regime recently issued a circular preventing the movement of the people around U.S. military bases. According to the the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain [Jebhe-ye Eslami-ye Azadibakhsh-e Bahrain], even Bahraini military personnel have been banned from any movement near U.S. bases, and only special security forces and the amir's guards, who are administered by U.S. advisers, are exempt from these regulations.

According to another report, the Bahraini regime with U.S. assistance has recently constructed an underground base in the (Al-Rifa) region. This base, which is being constructed with secret funds, is situated in the area near the residences of Al Khalifah and the leaders of that regime, where the Amiri Palace, the Defense Ministry, and important and sensitive centers of the regime are situated.

General Says Navy To Prevent 'U.S. Aggression'

LD0806013888 Tehran International Service in English 1930 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Brigadier General Shahbazi, head of the Joint Staff Command of the Islamic Republic of Iran Army today in a speech in the southern Iranian port of Bushehr said: The recent "Zolfaqar-3" maneuvers indicated that the Islamic Republic of Iran's Navy is completely developed and that at present certain Iranian waterways are safeguarded with the full coordination of the Air Force. It is ready to prevent U.S. aggression in the Persian Gulf.

He added: According to confessions of Western news sources, the Islamic Republic of Iran's Navy is considered a potential danger for the United States.

Speaks to Naval Cadets

LD0806062388 Tehran IRNA in English 0559 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Sari, Mazandaran Prov., June 8, IRNA—Chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran Brig. General 'Ali Shahbazi inspected a naval college in the port city of Now Shahr at Caspian Sea Tuesday.

He said to cadets that the U.S. fears Iran's Muslim combatants and especially the Air Force which is the reason why it continues to keep its forces on the alert.

General Shahbazi expressed hope that the graduates of the college with their commitment and skill will prove brave soldiers for the army of Islam.

Pointing to the "Zolfaqar-3" war games recently concluded in the the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman he said that the maneuvers demonstrated the full preparedness and power of the armed forces for thwarting aggressions. Shahbazi said the maneuvers employed more advanced and sophisticated hardware than used in previous maneuvers.

General Shahbazi has been chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces since May 8.

Pakistani Muslims Offer To Fight Iraq

LD0806084988 Tehran IRNA in English 0804 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Islamabad, June 8, IRNA—A group of Pakistanis from the North-West Frontier Province of Pakistan Tuesday announced readiness to go to war fronts against the Iraqi forces and donate blood for Muslim combatants.

One thousand local Muslims in Peshawar singed a petition for fighting alongside the Iranian troops in which they condemned the plots of the world arrogance and specially the U.S. they handed their petition to the Iranian Consulate in Peshawar.

Commentary on Plots by World 'Arrogance'
NC0806121088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Commentary from the "Holy Defense" program]

[Text] Today, the United States has come on the scene by deploying a large part of its military strength to prevent the fulfillment of the just conditions set by the Islamic Republic and the administration of justice in the Iraqi-imposed war. With their extensive military presence in the Persian Gulf waters on the one hand, and the equipping and arming of the Iraqi Army on the other, the Americans are strengthening and assisting Saddam against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Parallel with its use of military weapons against the Iranian people, the White House is trying to create political bottlenecks for the Islamic Revolution to force it to surrender to the aggressive 'Aflaqi regime. The UN Security Council is playing the main role in imposing Resolution No 598. The United States is trying to pressure Security Council members into approving a plan for an arms embargo against Iran, thus forcing our nation to accept the resolution and keeping the war criminals of Baghdad free from punishment.

Another important dimension of the plots by arrogance against the Islamic Republic of Iran is the extensive offensive begun by the mass media affiliated with the United States and international Zionism. With this propaganda offensive, which is actually a type of psychological warfare against the Iranian nation, the infidels of the world intend, by magnifying the Iraqi Army's operations in Al-Faw and Shalamcheh, to portray the forces of Islam as fored into defensive positions. Furthermore, the loudspeakers of arrogance even sometimes try to instill the thought that the imposed war is developing in favor of the Ba'thist Iraqi regime.

Yes. The world of arrogance has joined hands against Islamic Iran. What is our duty in the face of such serious and destiny-making conditions? Should we sit idly by and lose one by one the priceless results gained by the blood of the martyrs of the imposed war? Can we remain silent about the plots hatched by the world of infidels and arrogance, aimed at saving the aggressor and the main perpetrator of the war, Zionist Saddam? Under such conditions, will neglecting the crimes and atrocities perpetrated by the Baghdad regime not be tantamount to encouraging all types of warmongering arbitrariness and aggression?

By continuing its presence on the fronts, by further strengthening its combat organization, and tightening the ranks of the defenders of the Islamic Revolution, the Iranian nation will without a doubt make the world and the regional mentors of the Ba'thists of Iraq regret their continued support and assistance to that regime, and will also force them to accept its just conditions.

Mobilization Official on Training, 'Plots'
NC0806110788 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Interview with Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad 'Ali Rahmani, head of the IRGC Organization of the Mobilization of the Oppressed, by unidentified correspondent, from the "Holy Defense" program; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] In view of the importance of military training in the war, what are the plans and programs of the mobilization unit to expand and elevate the quality of training for those who have volunteered to go to the fronts?

[Rahmani] As we all know, the presence of the forces on the fronts is directly linked to training and the expansion of training. For the current year our plans are to train a 2-million strong force. This will include specialized and general training, as well as training in various other fields. Of course, the garrisons and training centers have been placed at the disposal of the IRGC's mobilization unit. One of the direct duties of this unit is to train and organize people, and this unit has expressed its readiness to undertake these trainings.

Of course, the forces have also warmly welcomed this training. God willing, we hope that during the current year the part of our IRGC in charge of training programs will be able to carry out its duties as best as possible. We also hope that, with God's assistance, we too will be able to carry out the duties that we have undertaken in the various fields of training, particularly in the dispatches to the fronts, in a better and newer way as fits the operations.

I would like to repeat that our dispatches come in two stages and two forms. One dispatch sends forces that have already received the necessary training to the fronts. The other consists of dispatches to the training centers. We expect our people, particularly our basijis who have received general training in past years, to apply to the garrisons for dispatch to the fronts in greater numbers thatn before, in order to complete their training and, God willing, go to the fronts to assist their dear brother fighters.

[Correspondent] While the Ba'thist regime continues its warmongering in the Persian Gulf and maintains its desire to expand the war, what, in your opinion, were Saddam's objectives behind holding the so-called peace conference in Baghdad?

[Rahmani] The colonialist act by the superpowers against a risen nation is a united, long-term action aimed at preventing the revolutionary trend of the nation that has risen. Since one or two years ago, all efforts related to the imposed war were basically dictated to the United Nations and other dependent elements by the United

States, who did not want the war to end in a victory for the Islamic Republic of Iran. Also, extensive propaganda promoted an end to the war through talks and, actually, through an imposed peace.

On the military scene, they started to pressure us and these pressures continue. On the political scene, they formed large international conferences in European and African countries. The Arab League supported vast propaganda and held extensive conferences aimed at pressuring the Islamic Republic of Iran. This was the propaganda dimension of the issue. They also made efforts on the economic scene.

They forced Saudi Arabia to sever relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran. Saudi Arabia, a criminal country, killed a number of Muslims in Mecca, the holy shrine of God, and at the same time severed relations. Other countries were forced to sever relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It is no secret that this is all part of a plot in various military, political, and propaganda fields, aimed at boycotting the Islamic Republic of Iran and at presenting a false image of the Islamic Republic even to Muslims, so that the fruits of an imposed peace can be reaped. One of the links in this plot was the conference which the Israeli, Zionist, criminal usurpers set up in Tel Aviv. The conference was set up to discuss peace and the identification of the elements that led to the growth of the Islamic Revolution, as well as of elements that could crush it.

A similar peace conference, another link in the chain of plots, was held in Baghdad. This may not have been particularly linked or timed for the expansion of operations in the Persian Gulf. One of the objectives of the plot was to hold various conferences, with various invited elements, to study issues pertaining to the war. This was an effort to condemn the Islamic Republic of Iran in terms of the war, so that the Islamic Republic would stop insisting so strongly on naming Iraq as the primary aggressor.

It is clear among international forums that Iraq is the main aggressor. The Islamic Republic is therefore justified in demanding that Iraq be punished. However, if we study the conference from another angle, keeping in mind the activities in the Persian Gulf with direct U.S. participation, as well as what happened in Al-Faw, we can see that Iraq found a good opportunity for more propaganda and more justifications. This preplanned conference and its outcome, like all conferences with preplanned outcomes, cannot change the trend of the revolution.

The leadership of the revolution has delineated and specified the revolution's path. The just followers of this path and the resisting people will answer all these plots and their various forms with the help of God. We pray for our dear fighters on the fronts, for the final victory of good against evil.

Radio, TV To Broadcast Civil Defense Tips

LD0306203488 Tehran IRNA in English 1636 GMT 3 Jun 88

[Text] Hamadan, June 3, IRNA—Head of basij (volunteer forces) of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Mohammad Rahmani said Thursday that tips for wartime self-defence would be broadcast by Iranian and radio and television shortly. He said already some five million civilians have taken military training.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rahmani elaborated on the situation at the war fronts and said that people have warmly welcomed the despatch of forces to the Iraqi-imposed war fronts in the third stage of the Mohammad (SAW) Corps due to be sent to the battlefields on Sunday. [sentence as received]

Report on Dispatch of Mohammad Corps Troops

NC0806073588 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1700 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] Correspondents of the Central News Unit report that on the anniversary of 15 Khordad [5 June 1963 uprising] tens of thousands of volunteer mobilization forces, called the Mohammad PBUH [peace be upon him] Corps, left for the fronts today from Mashhad, Esfahan, Rasht, Ardabil, Zanjan, Bakhtaran, Kerman, Karaj, and Qom.

A large number of Muslim Iraqi mujahidin affiliated with the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, grouped with the third convoy of the Mohammad PBUH Corps, also left for the fronts to join their co-strugglers in the 9th Badr Army.

More Volunteers Go to Fronts

NC0806113488 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1700 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that in continuation of the extensive dispatch of volunteer forces to the fronts of the war, large groups of basijis from Ilam, Yazd, Lorestan, and Kohkiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad Provinces left for the war fronts grouped in the Mohammad Peace Be Upon Him Corps.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Iraqi Aircraft Repulsed 7 Jun

LD0706113588 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] The aggressor Iraqi regime's aircraft at around noon today violated the airspace of the provinces of West Azarbayjan, Hamadan, and Lorestan. IRNA reports the violating Iraqi aircraft were confronted with

the fire of air defense units and the effective measures of the fighters of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Air Force and were forced to flee, breaking the sound barrier at very high altitudes.

Communique No 3,226

LD0706153588 Tehran IRNA in English 1522 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 7, IRNA—Iranian Air Force jets effectively carried out their routine patrol missions over the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman Monday, providing air cover for the navy and reconnoitering 53 vessels in the waterway, said a military communique here Tuesday.

In its 3226th communique, the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces reported that Iranian naval units, in addition to carrying out patrol missions, continued controling shipping in the Strait of Hormuz yesterday.

Exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued throughout the battlefields Monday, raging somewhat more heavily in Kohnehrig [name as received] and Kushk, southern sector.

Iran's Muslim forces shelled Iraqi positions, troop concentration sites and supply routes throughout the warfronts Monday, killing a number of enemy soldiers and destroying a watch tower and several bunkers and gun emplacements of theirs.

Iranian artillery fire repelled a number of Iraqi patrol units in Mehran, Sumar, Qasr-e Shirin and 'Eyn-e Khowsh, western and southern fronts, yesterday, killing a number of enemy patrolmen.

Several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and an enemy truck set ablaze in parts of the southern and western sectors Monday when shelled by Iranian Gendarmerie forces.

Heavy fire of Iran's Muslim combatants disrupted activities of Iraqi armoured units in Kalaleh, Sumar and Nahr 'Anbar, western sector, Monday, concluded the communique.

Iraqi Jets Violate Airspace

LD0806110888 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] The aircraft of the war-mongering Iraqi regime at 1200 today violated the airspace above Lorestan and Hamadan Provinces and the town of Sar Dasht. According to IRNA, after being faced with the heavy fire of the anti-aircraft defense of the Iranian Air Force, the intruding enemy aircraft fled, breaking the sound barrier.

Kurds Attack 2 Irbil Bases

LD0806112588 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] According to reports received from the Ramadan Headquarters, the fighters of that headquarters in cooperation with the hezbollahi Iraqi Kurdish peshmerga, attacked two enemy security bases in Berukhaled region in Irbil province of Iraq in the past few days and succeeded in completely destroying those two bases.

During these operations a large number of enemy personnel were either killed or wounded and a considerable quantity of ammunitions and light and semiheavy weapons were captured by the fighters of Islam.

Anti-Khomeyni Leader Organizing in Turkey

NC0706074788 Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 3 Jun 88 p 15

[Ercument Isledyen report: "We Ask for a Camp in Turkey"]

[Excerpts] Ihsanullah Pezespur, leader of the Armed Revolutionary Forces for the Liberation of Iran (NAMARA), has secretly arrived in Istanbul to inspect the units of his organization in Turkey. Pezespur was a general in the Iranian Army during the shah's era. He is now waging an armed struggle to bring Reza Pahlavi, the son of the former shah, to power. In a meeting, Pezespur said:

"The armed popular uprising against Khomeyni that we shall start in Iran will be realized through Turkey. Thousands of Iranians have stayed in Turkey after escaping from Iran. We wish to keep them under surveillance for the purpose of setting up our leading cadres. In this regard we have already set up organizations in four provinces, but I will not say exactly where. (We determined later on in our meeting that three of the provinces are Istanbul, Ankara, and Izmir.) [passage omitted]

Pezespur said that his organization asked to be allowed to set up a camp in Turkey in order to give political training to its militants. He asserted: "We promise that we will not give military instruction in this camp. We shall use it only for political training and orientation."

Recalling that the Khomeyni regime was engaged in an intensive propaganda campaign among Iranians and Turks in Istanbul, Pezespur said: "The people responsible for the Koranic courses in the Aksaray and Fatih quarters in Istanbul and a number of individuals working as instructors in karate and tae kwon do courses in schools and sports centers are engaged in secret propaganda activities favoring Khomeyni. Your people are being brainwashed by these infiltrators. Istanbul is presently the most dangerous city for us in Europe. We attach great importance to secrecy in order to maintain the safety of our members."

IRGC Commander Reza'i Reportedly Disappears

TA0706130488 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Text] It is being rumored in Tehran that IRGC Commander Mohsen Reza'i has disappeared. In the wake of the Islamic Republic's consecutive defeats in Al-Faw and Shalamcheh, Mohsen Reza'i was accused of incompetence in managing IRGC war operations.

During a Supreme Defense Council meeting even some of the Islamic regime's leaders called for his arrest and trial, but Ahmad Khomeyni's mediation saved him from death. The fate of Mohsen Reza'i is still unknown, but meanwhile the star of IRGC Minister Rafiqdust, who is also Hashemi-Rafsanjani's relative, is rising.

Briefs

Soviet Agronomists Arrive

Tabriz, East Azarbayjan Prov., June 6, IRNA—Four Soviet agronomists arrived here last week to explore the ways and means for fighting plant diseases afflicting the flora of the Iran-Soviet border areas. According to protocols signed between Iran and the Soviet Union last week the two countries' experts will annually visit joint border areas for improving their pest-control strategies. [Text] [*LD0806030388 Tehran IRNA in English 0714 GMT 6 Jun 88*]

Pakistan

'Terrorists' Blow Up Train Near Lahore 7 Jun

BK0806111688 Hong Kong AFP in English 1112 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Islamabad, June 8 (AFP)—A powerful bomb apparently intended for a crowded passenger express blew up a locomotive and derailed a goods train near Lahore late Tuesday, officials said Wednesday.

The train blast took place hours after a major gas pipeline blew up in Lahore, capital of the Pakistani state of Punjab, in what was officially described as "sabotage."

Officials said the train explosion was caused by six to eight pounds (three to four kilograms) of TNT placed on the tracks near the Akhtar Abad Railway Station some 75 kilometres (50 miles) south of Lahore. They said that as many as 39 of the 71 empty wagons were derailed and the train engine tossed some three feet (one metre) into the air before falling on the right side of the line. No casualties were reported.

Blaming the incident on "terrorists," the officials said the apparent target was the usually-crowded Awam Express passenger train. Luckily, the express had been delayed, the officials said, and the goods train obtained clearance to steam out first.

The gas pipeline blown up in Lahore supplies 40 percent of the fuel gas needs of Pakistan's second-largest city as well as catering to industrial requirements.

Authorities have frequently blamed Afghan secret service agents for terror attacks in Pakistan which have claimed more than 500 lives.

President Hosts Dinner for Departing USSR Envoy

BK0806024688 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] The departing Soviet ambassador, Vezirov, made a farewell call on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi last night. The president appreciated the efforts of the departing ambassador on improving the friendly relations between Pakistan and the Soviet Union. He said Pakistan will fully cooperate in the implementation of the Geneva accords on Afghanistan.

Vezirov thanked the president and the Pakistan Government for their cooperating during his tenure. Later, the president hosted a dinner in honor of the departing ambassador, which was also attended by some senators and civil and military officials.

Commentary on India-Pakistan Talks Outcome

BK0406095888 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 3 Jun 88

[Ghani Erabi commentary]

[Text] The foreign secretaries of Pakistan and India have just wrapped up a 3-phase series of discussions on outstanding issues. In phase one, the home secretaries of the two countries meeting in Delhi around mid-May thrashed out the issues of cross-border terrorism and smuggling of arms and drugs and agreed to undertake joint patrolling of sensitive sectors of the border. In phase two, the defense secretaries of India and Pakistan met in Islamabad in the 3d week of May and did their best to defuse the tension in the Siachen where the two armies confront each other. According to unconfirmed unofficial reports, the possibility of treating the area as no-man's-land occupied by neither was considered. The third phase constituted a review of the entire gamut of Indo-Pakistan relations at parleys between the two foreign secretaries.

Offering a realistic summation, Mr Abdus Sattar told newsmen in New Delhi yesterday the movement toward normalization has been painfully slow, but it is gratifying there has been tangible movement, nonetheless, and the two countries have inched forward toward better relations since the Simla Accord. During their 10-hour discussion, Mr Sattar and his Indian counterpart, Mr K.P.S. Menon, covered a wide range of bilateral relations and also exchanged views on regional issues, like Afghanistan on which their perceptions differ, and also the current international situation on which there is a measure of concurrence. More significant, they have agreed

to continue their discussions. Sattar rightly expressed the importance of a continuing dialogue and promised to make it deeper and more extensive. He was confident, over a period of time, the positive aspects of Indo-Pakistan relations would outbalance issues which obstruct the development of confidence and goodwill between the two countries. He also reported satisfaction (?with) his meeting with Mr Rajiv Gandhi and a number of his cabinet colleagues, including Indian Defense Minister K.C. Pant.

There is no gainsaying the fact India and Pakistan have little to lose and a lot to gain from an honest effort to resolve their differences. Neither should be interested in destabilizing the other. Both are vulnerable in one area or another and any attempt to stir the vulnerability can backfire. Any bid to do down the other is bound to trigger a vicious circle of moves and countermoves on the politico-military front that will keep the subcontinent in a state of turmoil and frustrate all plans to give the people a better life quality. Common ground is offered by Indo-Pakistan allegiance to the principle of sovereign equality of nations and there is no reason why in cases on which the two countries cannot iron out their differences by bilateral discussion, they should not seek the good offices of the United Nations to whose Charter both subscribe.

Satellite Tracking Station Begins Operation

BK0506125988 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 5 Jun 88

[Text] The satellite tracking station of the Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere [Research] Commission [SUPARCO] has gone into regular operation in Lahore. The SUPARCO chairman told Radio Pakistan's Lahore representative today that the station, which can track seven different types of satellites, is working satisfactorily. It can receive pictures of cloud cover both from polar orbiting and geosynchronous orbiting satellites. The SUPARCO chief said the tracking function by the station was expected to be augmented by a laser-cum-optical detector and photographing device in the next 3 months.

Sri Lanka

Jayewardene Issues Communique Thanking IPKF

BK0706131288 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1219 GMT 7 Jun 88

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 7 June (LANKAPUVATH)—Sri Lankan President J.R. Jayewardene addressing the government parliamentary group meeting today said that the first batch of troops of the Indian Peace Keeping Force will withdraw today. All Sri Lankans should thank them for their services and fighting to preserve the independence and unity of the country.

A communique issued by the chief government [word indistinct] states that President Jayewardene said the government is confident that terrorism in the north and east will soon end and elections to the provincial councils there will be held in July.

Because of the presence of the IPKF troops, a large number of Sri Lanka's services personnel were saved without being killed in combat. On the other hand, several IPKF personnel were killed and injured. They did all that for our country and its people. They all should salute the Indian soldiers for their bravery and laying down their lives for the sake of peace in Sri Lanka.

The president said that he and others from Sri Lanka who attended the last Indian Independence Day celebrations were moved when a lady came to accept the award for the bravery of her dead husband who died in combat in Sri Lanka. Seeing the lady, tears came to their eyes.

Commenting on the provincial council elections, the president said that the UNP secured power in all six provincial councils where elections were held. They hope to win in the southern provincial council election as well. President Jayewardene said that the pundits would analyse and argue whether or not things would be different if those who did not vote, voted. But the fact remained that a large number of voters exercised their democratic right at the election and that the UNP won at the six provincial council elections.

The government would investigate into any complaints made as regards wrongs done during the elections. The elections commissioner and the police have been instructed to entertain complaints regarding any irregular acts during the elections. Besides this, the UNP will also hold its own investigations.

President Jayewardene said that they should look into any drawbacks and correct any mistakes they have made in campaigning and work hard to secure a much bigger victory for the party in the other elections to be held in this year. They will have to hold the presidential elections this year. The general elections will also be held.

The president said now that the provincial councils have been set up. They should help these councils to get on their feet and work towards the realisation of their objectives. They will be in office for the next five years and cannot be changed.

The president said that he would summon all representatives of the provincial councils to discuss their functions and co-ordination they should have with the respective ministries.

2 Indian Soldiers Killed; 4 LTTE Men Captured

BK0806082988 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0732 GMT 8 Jun 88

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 8 June (LANKAPUVATH)—Two soldiers of the Indian Peace Keeping Force were killed yesterday south of Alampil in the Mullaittivu District when a column of troops came under fire from LTTE terrorists. The terrorists escaped into the jungle, official sources told LANKAPUVATH. The sources also said four LTTE terrorists were apprehended in the Vavuniya sector when extorting tax payments from residents. The IPKF apprehended two terrorist suspects, Ambai and Jayakumar, in the same area, while 3 LTTE cadres—Balasubramaniam, Renganathan, and Rajeswaran—surrendered without arms.

The IPKF, in a search operation conducted north east of Nedukerni for an abandoned terrorist camp, encountered a booby trap explosion. There were, however, no casualties. Indian troops recovered one locally made shot gun and two cartridges. A report from Trincomalee states that Indian troops detected a booby trap of 3 hand grenades connected to trip wires. Following the interrogation of a group of terrorists, the IPKF seized one 9-mm carbine and 89 rounds of [word indistinct] cartridges in Jaffna.

2 'Terrorists' Killed by Army in South

BK0806100388 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0904 GMT 8 Jun 88

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 8 June (LANKAPUVATH)—Sri Lankan Army soldiers routed a gang of about fifteen southern terrorists, killing two of them as they tried to set fire to an electric transformer at the Udagannawa-Buttala road junction in the Moneragala District in the early hours of yesterday morning. Official sources told LANKAPUVATH that the gang of terrorists had uprooted and damaged five electric posts and placed them across roads between Buttala and Pelwatta in the Moneragala District at [word indistinct] hours (local time). They had then stopped a truck carrying timber and burned it.

At About 0330 hours (local time), the same gang of terrorists had approached the electricity transformer at Udagannawa-Buttala road junction, the army lay in ambush near the transformer fired at the gang of fifteen killing 2 on the spot. The terrorists were reported to have fired back [words indistinct], thrown grenades, but the Sri Lankan soldiers counter attacked effectively causing the terrorists to flee. A can of petrol and a chain saw were found beside the bodies of the 2 dead terrorists.

Briefs

Governors Take Oath

Former minister of cultural affairs, E.L.B. Hurudulle, was sworn in as governor of Sri Lanka's Central Province, and former chief justice, S. Sharvananda, took his oath as governor of the Western Province before Sri Lankan President J.R. Jayewardene at the Janadhipatthi Mandiriya [president's house] in Colombo this evening. [Text] [*BK0606140888 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1255 GMT 6 Jun 88*]